



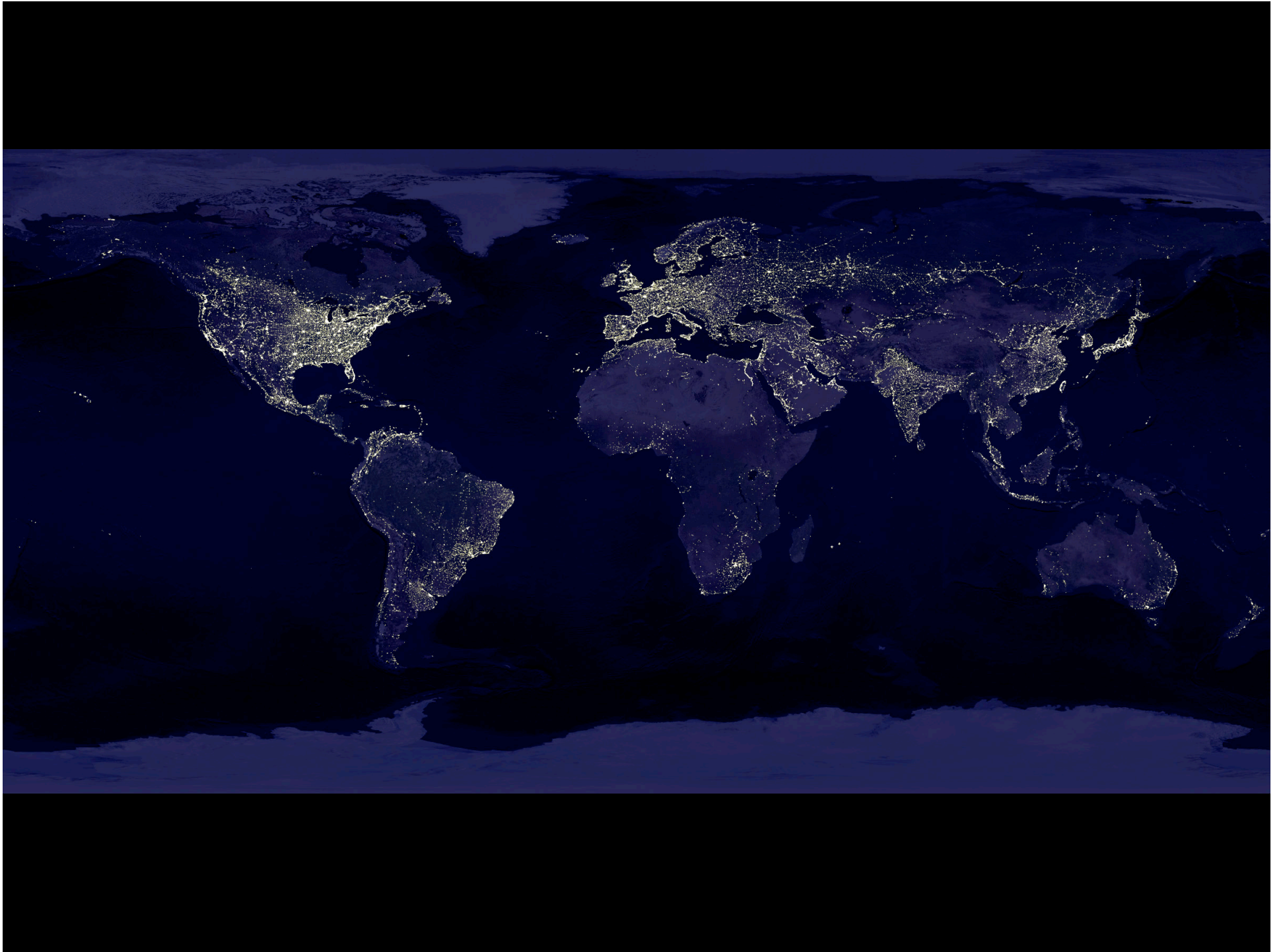
**Sustainability?**

**Population**

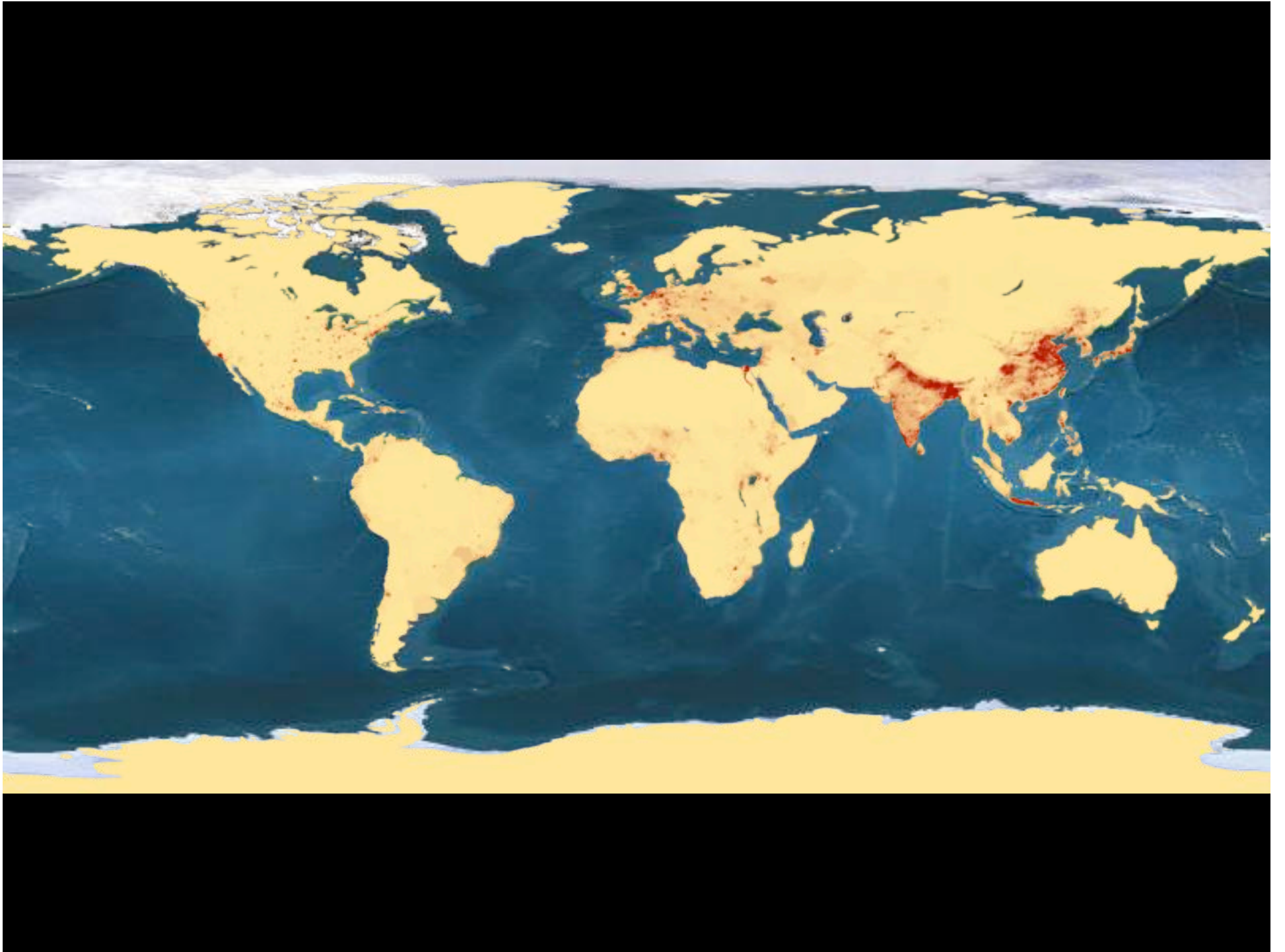
**Affluence**

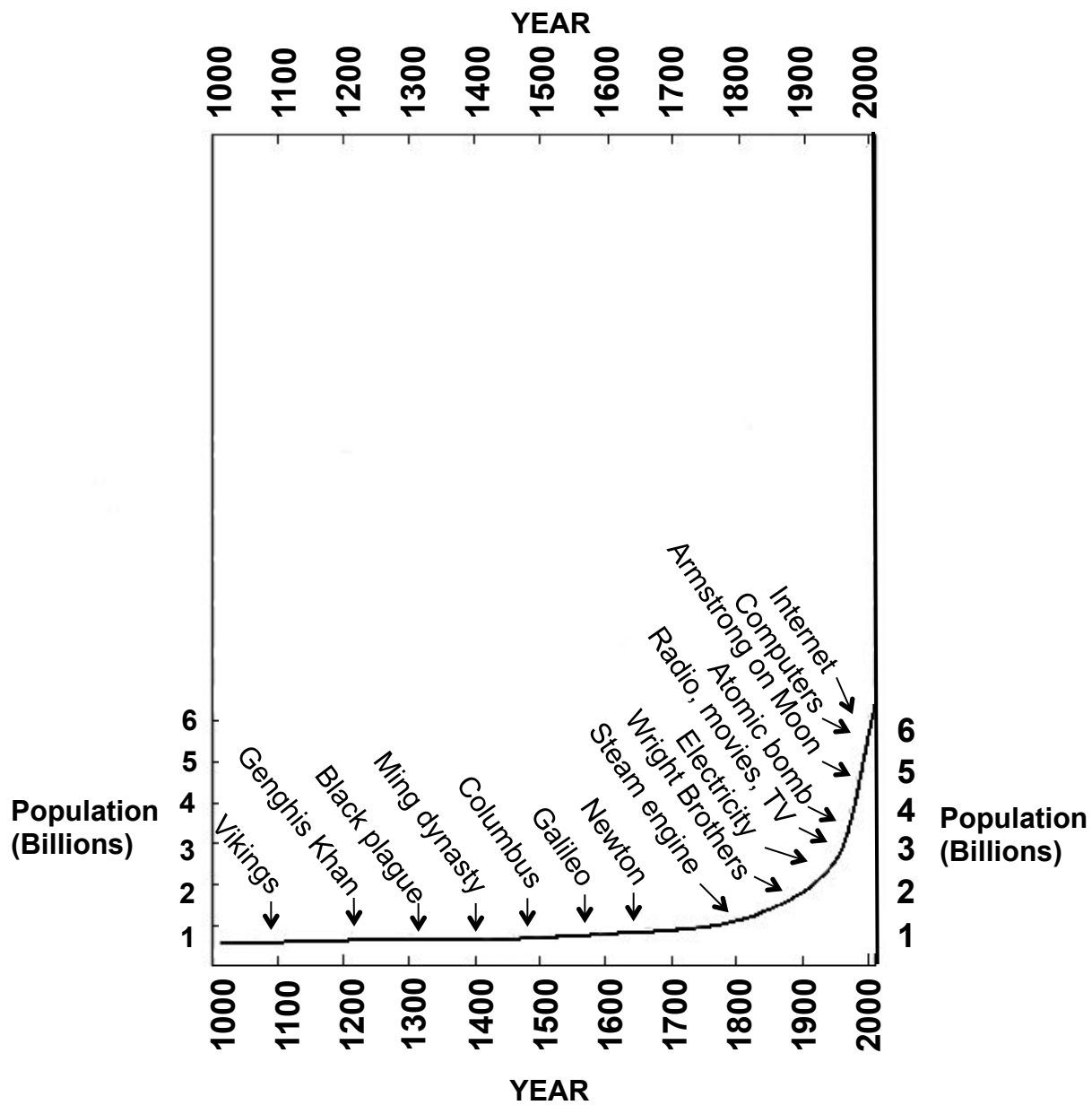
**Species**

**Technology**

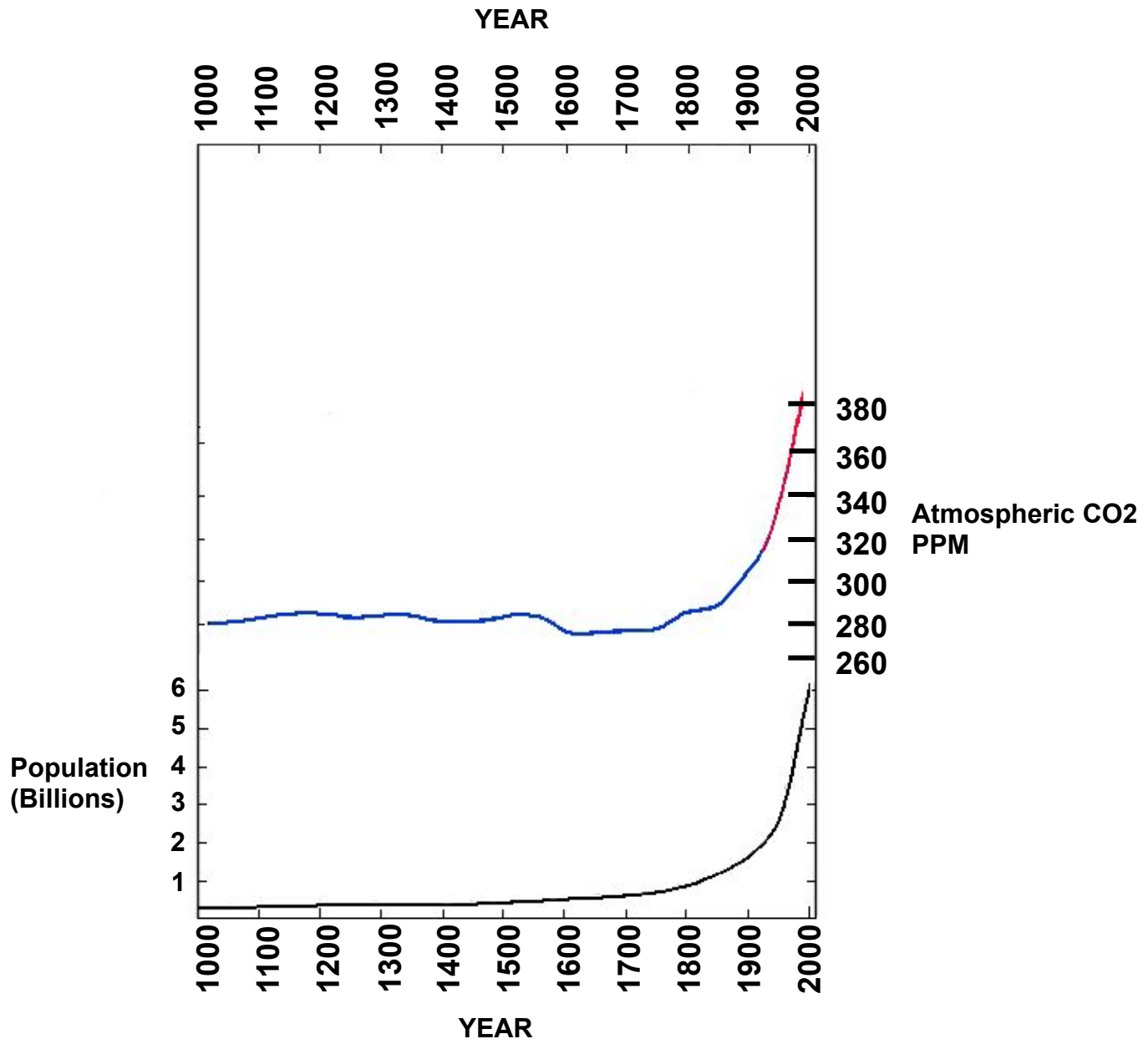


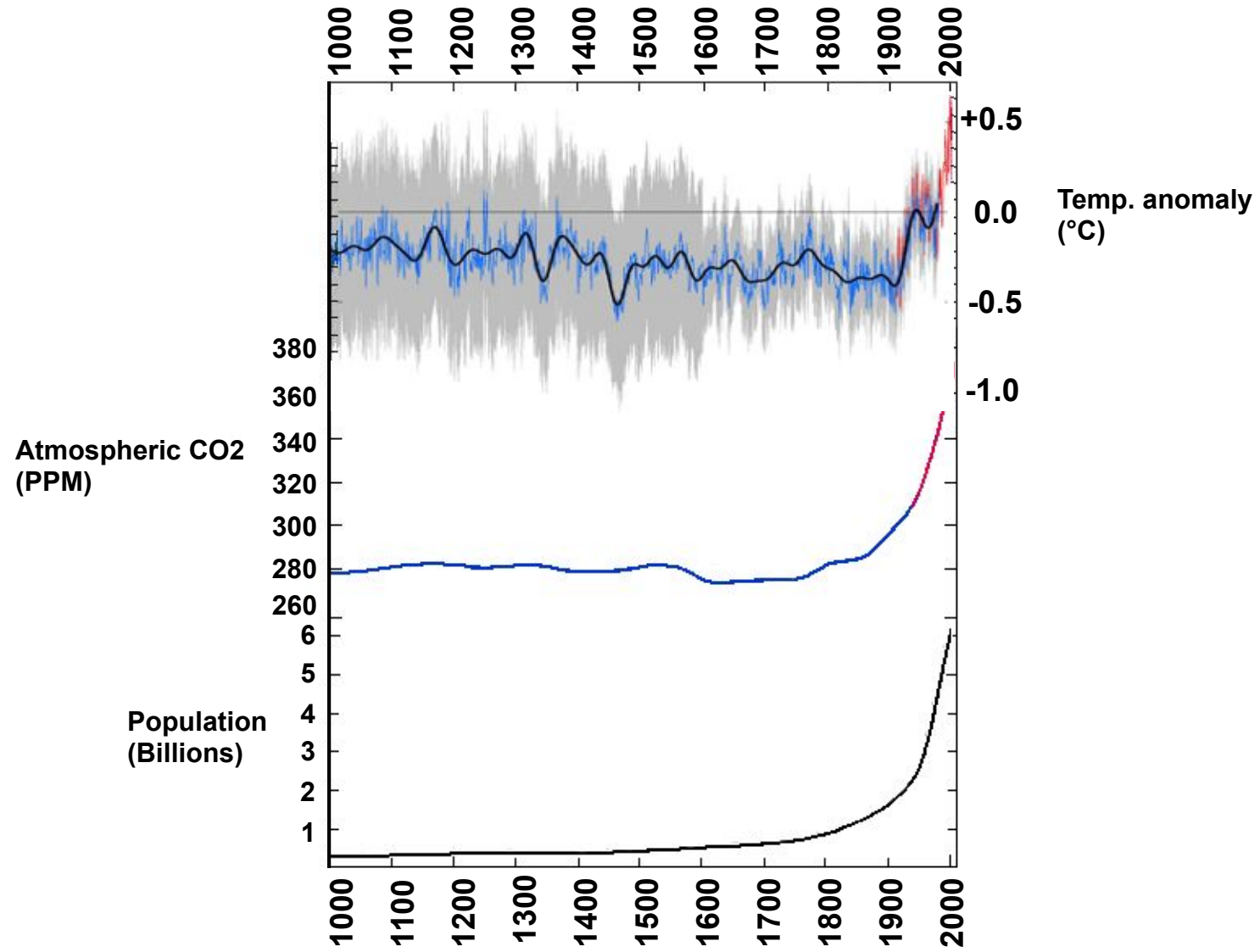






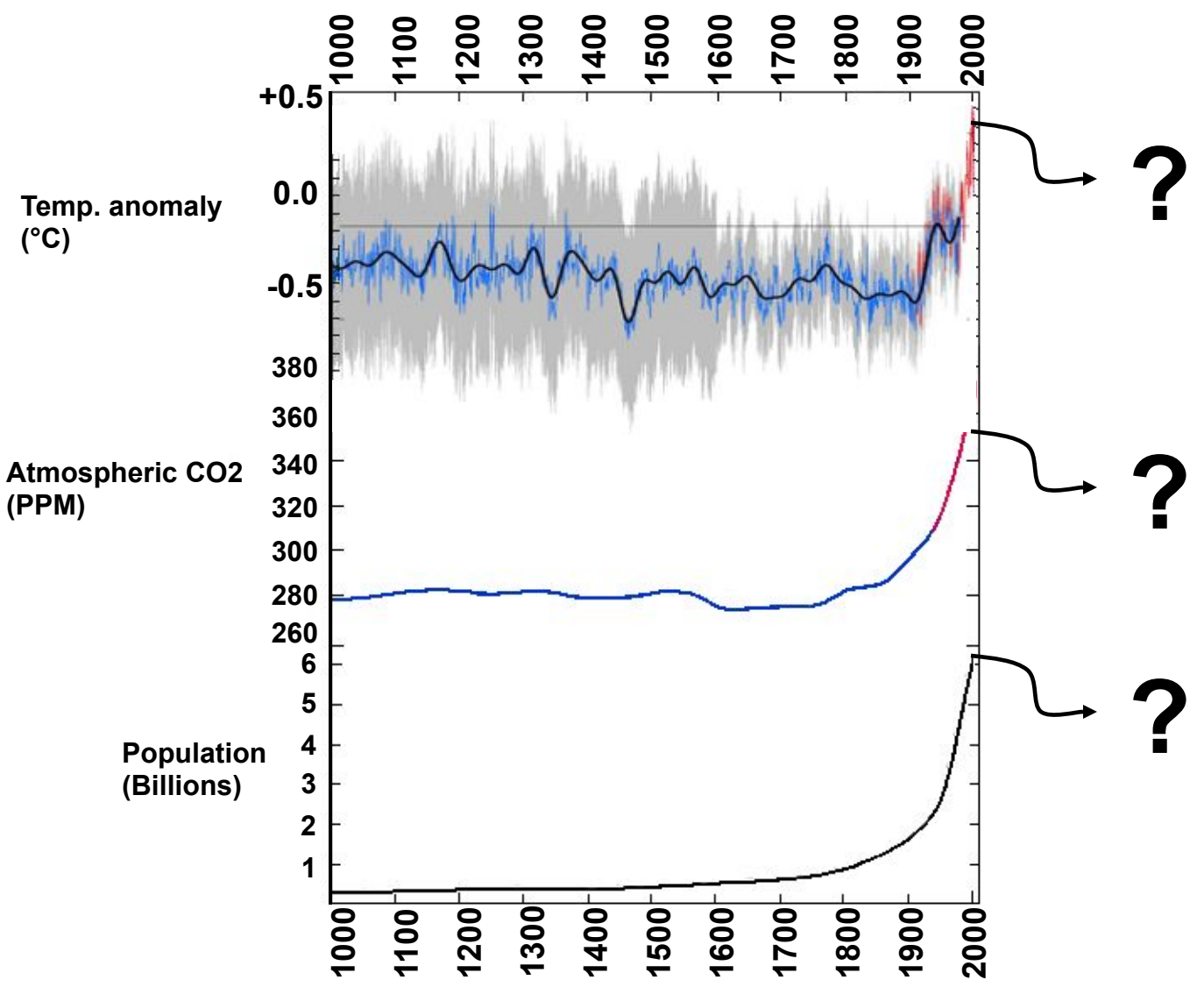












**What happens next?**



**Sustainability?**

**Population**

**Affluence**

**Species**

**Technology**

**Our Future?**

# **Title: Beyond Biofuels**

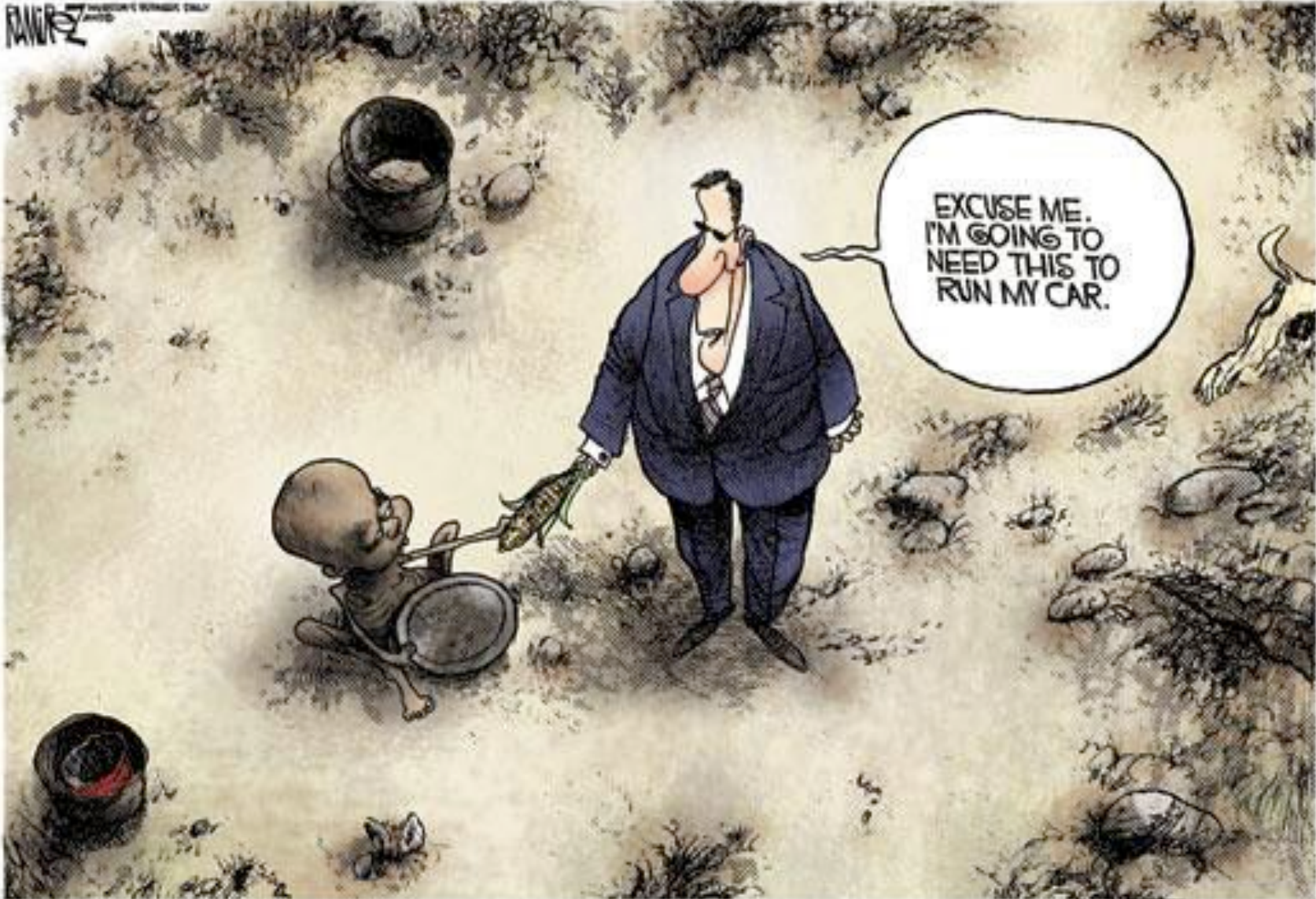
**Not use agricultural land**

**Not use freshwater**

**Feasible, affordable, scalable, sustainable...**

**NOW!**





# How **green** are biofuels?

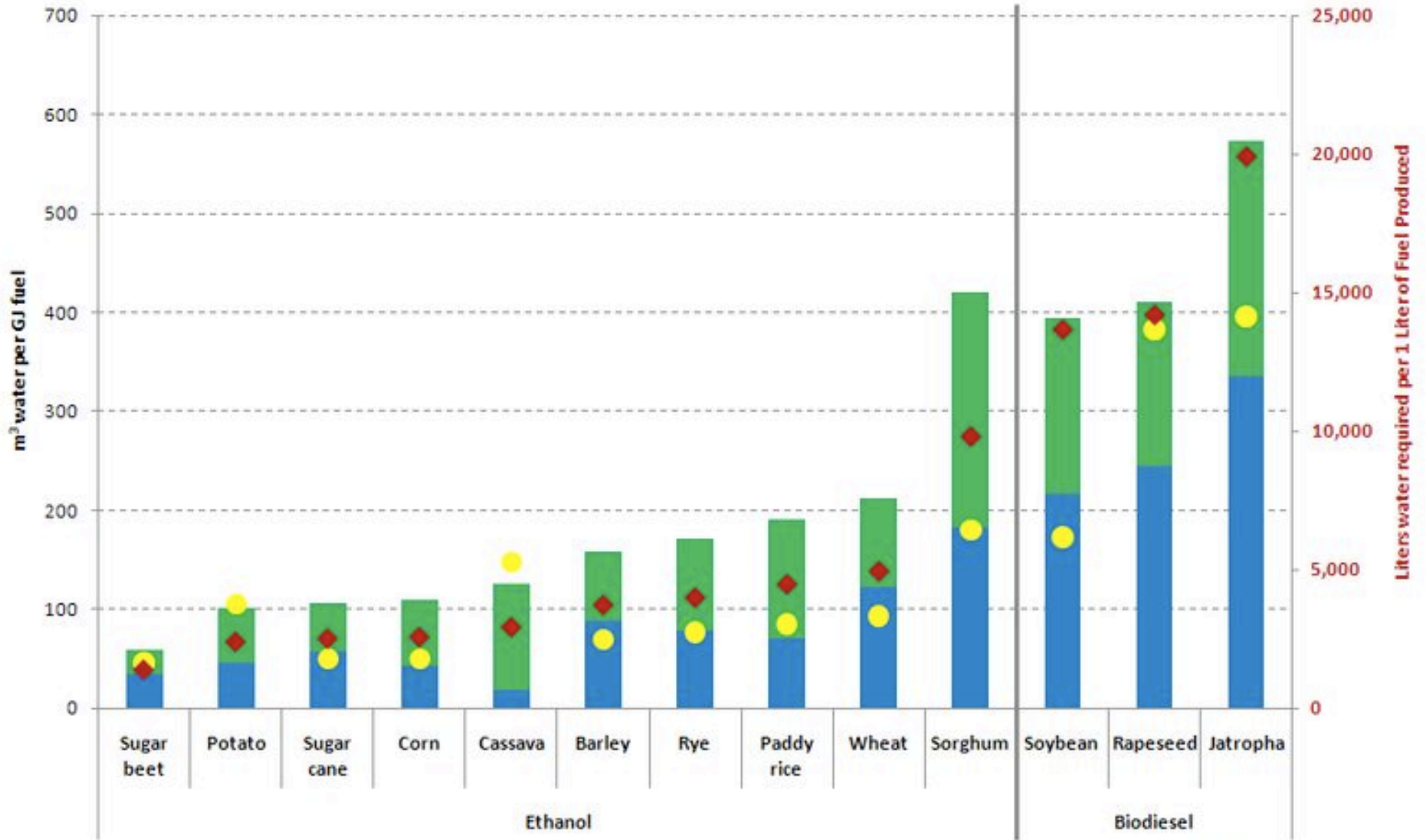
<b>Product</b>	
<b>GHG output*</b>	
<b>Water</b>	
<b>Fertilizer</b>	
<b>Pesticide</b>	
<b>Energy</b>	
<b>US crop land/ half demand</b>	

\*CO<sub>2</sub> kg/MJ: Growing, harvesting, refining, burning fuel (cf., gas=94)

# Total Weighted-Global Average Water Footprint for Bioenergy

■ Fuel Blue WF   ■ Fuel Green WF   ● Bioelectricity Total WF   ◆ Total L water/L fuel

<http://www.pnas.org/content/106/25/10219>



Data: Gerbens-Leenes et al.



## The problem with biodiesel...

<b>Product</b>	
<b>GHG output*</b>	
<b>Water</b>	
<b>Fertilizer</b>	
<b>Pesticide</b>	
<b>Energy</b>	
<b>US crop land/ half demand</b>	

\*CO<sub>2</sub> kg/MJ: Growing, harvesting, refining, burning fuel (cf., Diesel=83)

## *Biodiesel crops and production:*

<b>Plant</b>	<b>Gal/acre-yr</b>
Soybeans	50
Sunflower	100
Canola	160
Jatropha	200?
Palm Oil	600

from: Benemann 2007. Algae Biomass Summit

## *Biodiesel crops and production:*

<b>Plant</b>	<b>Gal/acre-yr</b>
Soybeans	50
Sunflower	100
Canola	160
Jatropha	200?
Palm Oil	600
<b>Microalgae</b>	<b>2,000 to ?</b>

from: Benemann 2007. Algae Biomass Summit





# *Botryococcus braunii*

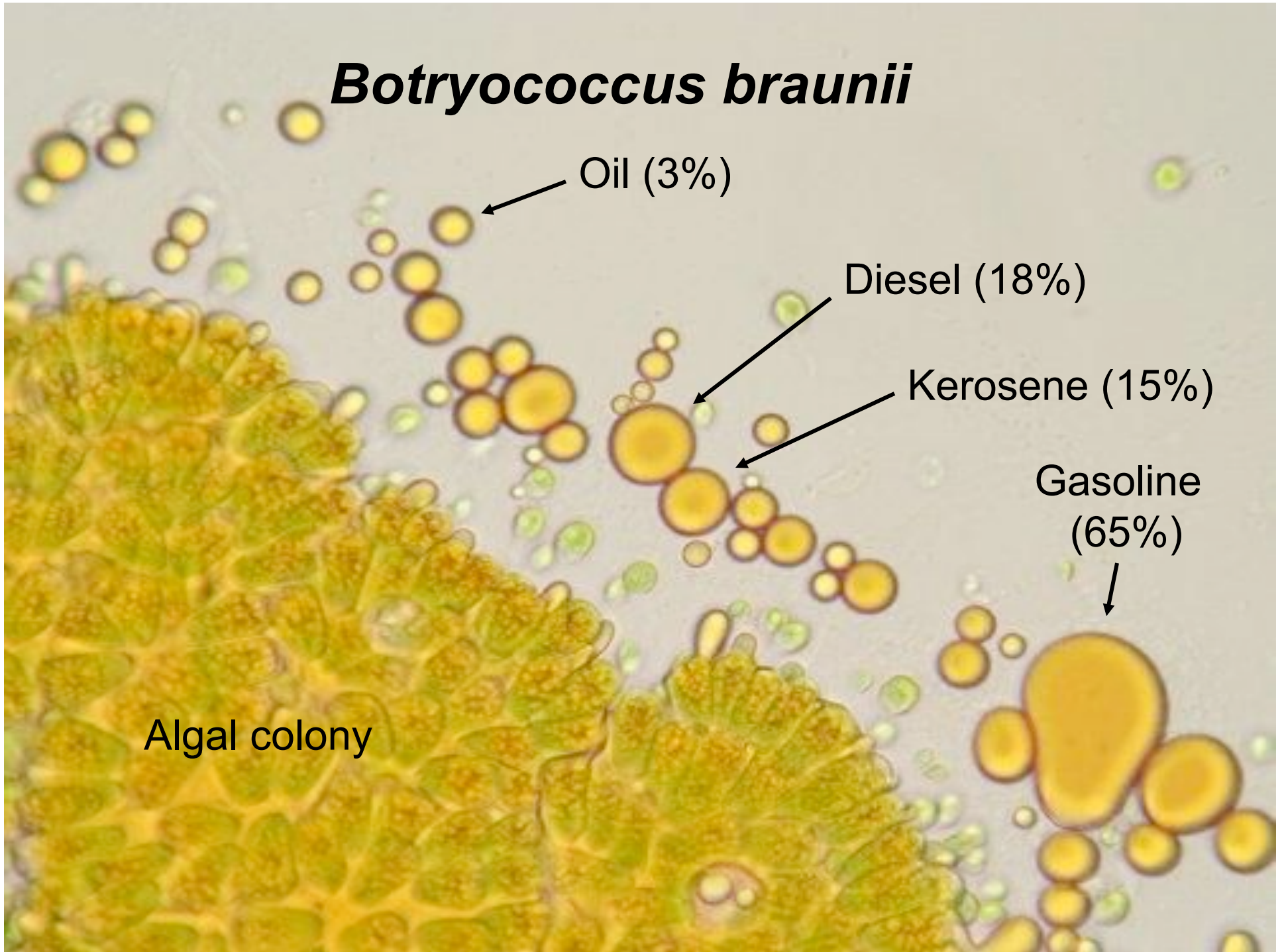
Oil (3%)

Diesel (18%)

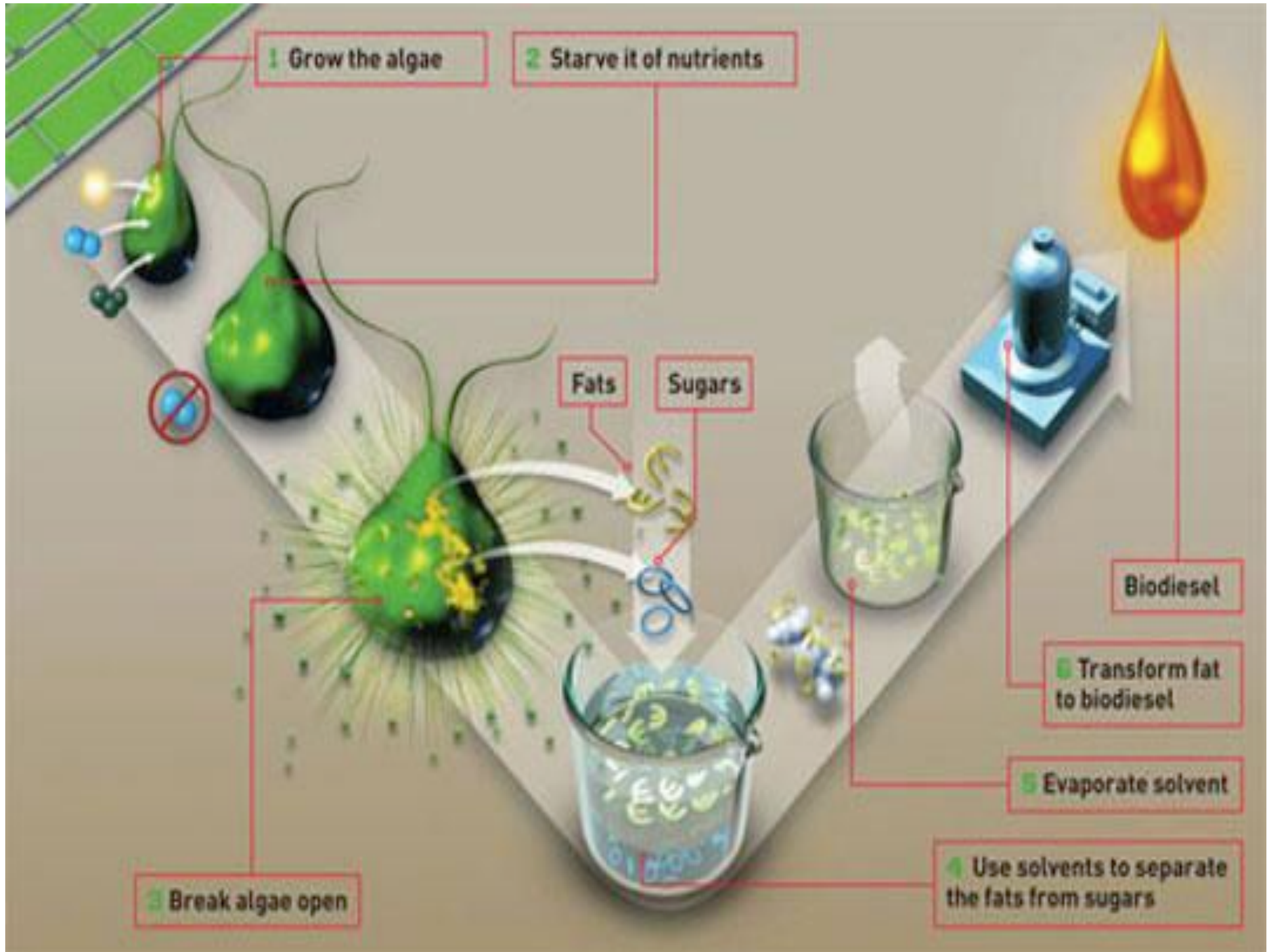
Kerosene (15%)

Gasoline (65%)

Algal colony









## **ALGAE:**

**Remove CO<sub>2</sub> from atmosphere**

**Remove nutrients from municipal wastewater...**

**(Remediate “dead zones”)**

**Produce fertilizer, food, cosmetics, medicine...**


**AND OIL (carbon-neutral biofuel, plastics, etc)**

## *Biodiesel crops and production:*

<b>Plant</b>	<b>Gal/acre-yr</b>	<b>Barrels/yr</b>
Soybeans	50	>10,000,000
Sunflower	100	> 1,000,000
Canola	160	>10,000,000
Jatropha	200?	some, not much
Palm Oil	600	>10,000,000
<b>Microalgae</b>	2,000 to ?	~0.1

from: Benemann 2007. Algae Biomass Summit





***What about just  
collecting algae  
growing in the  
ocean?***



**Harvest  
wild algae?**

**Too dilute**

**Spatially/temporally dispersed**

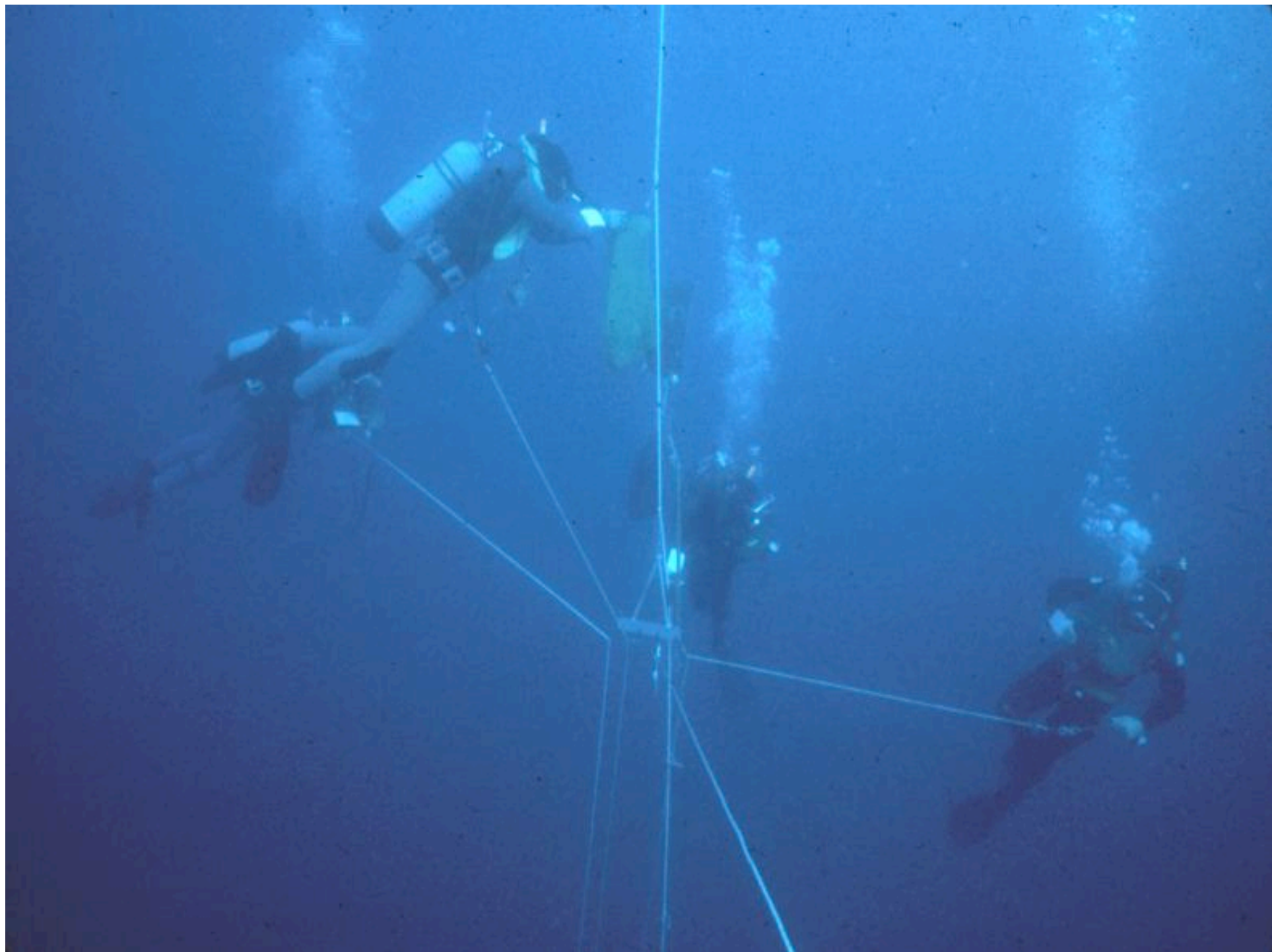
**Species composition wrong**

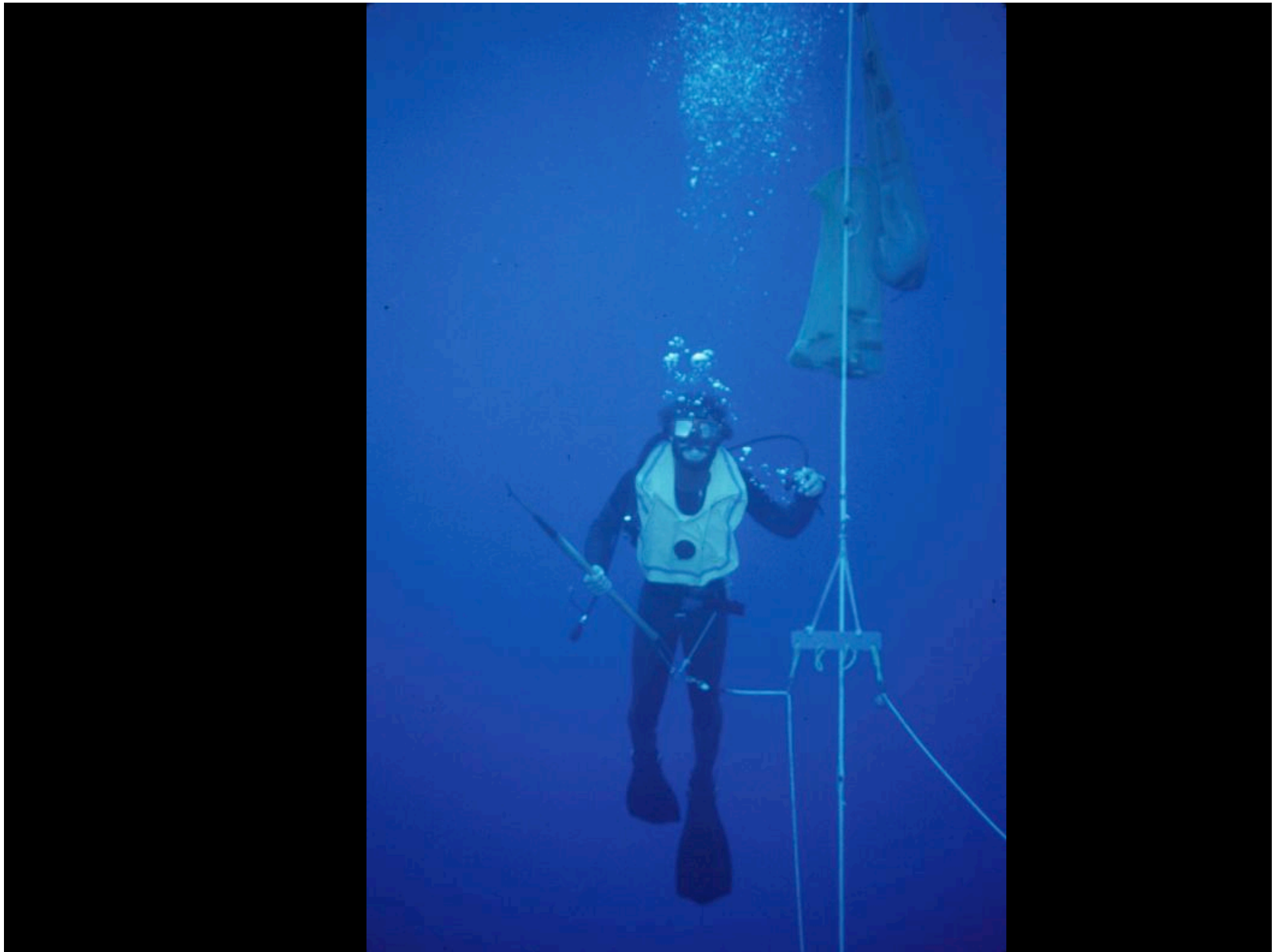






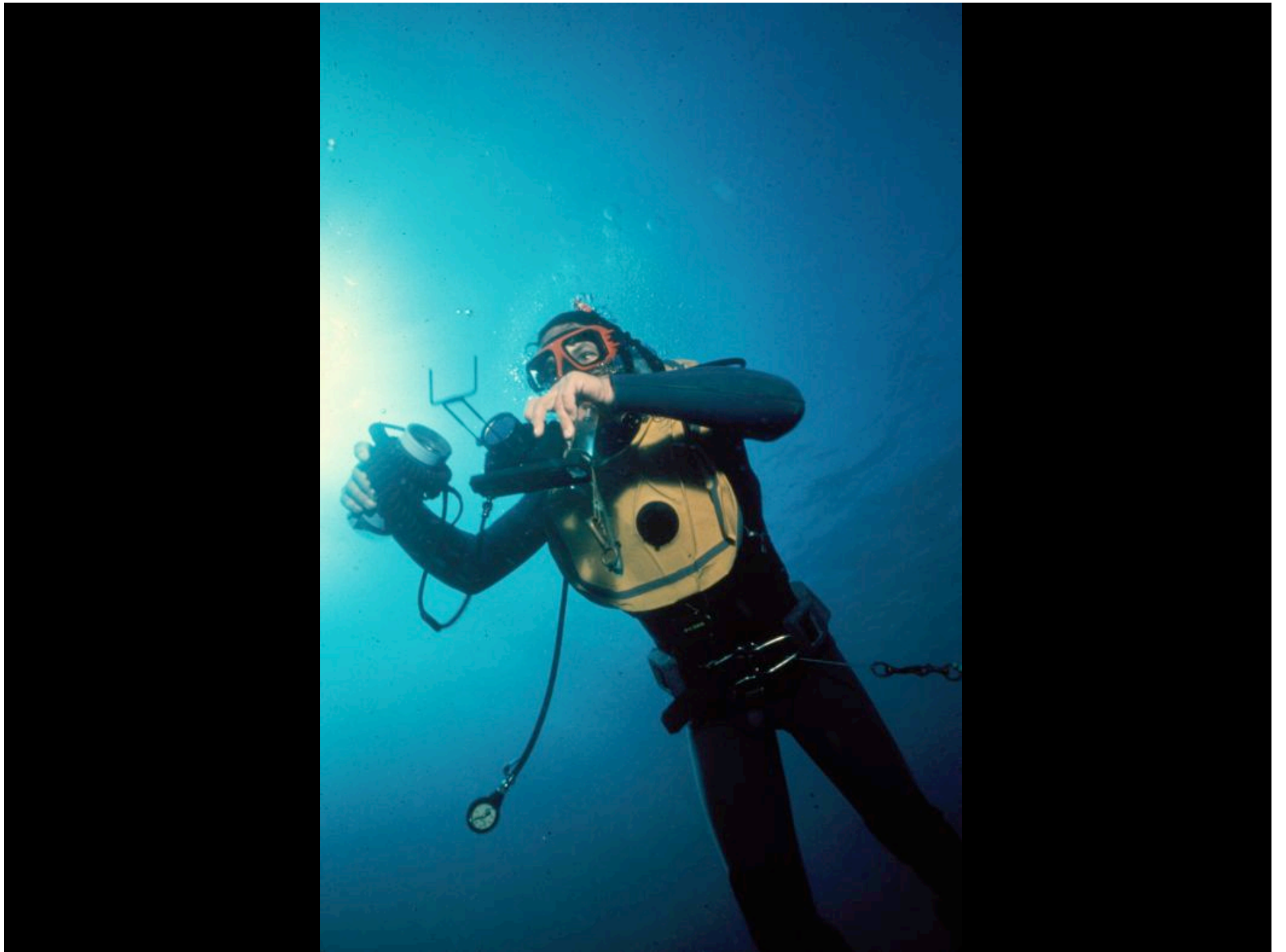


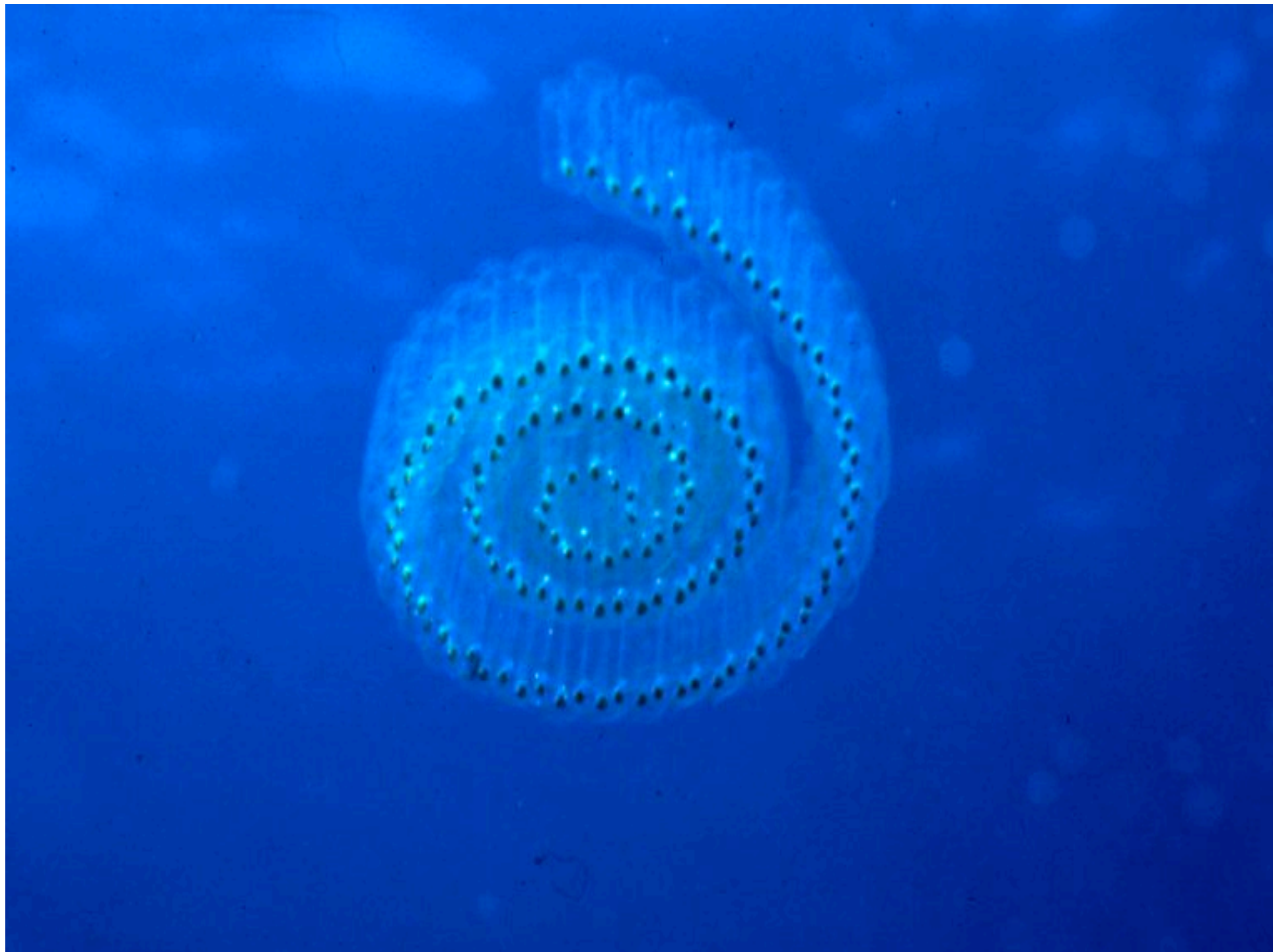








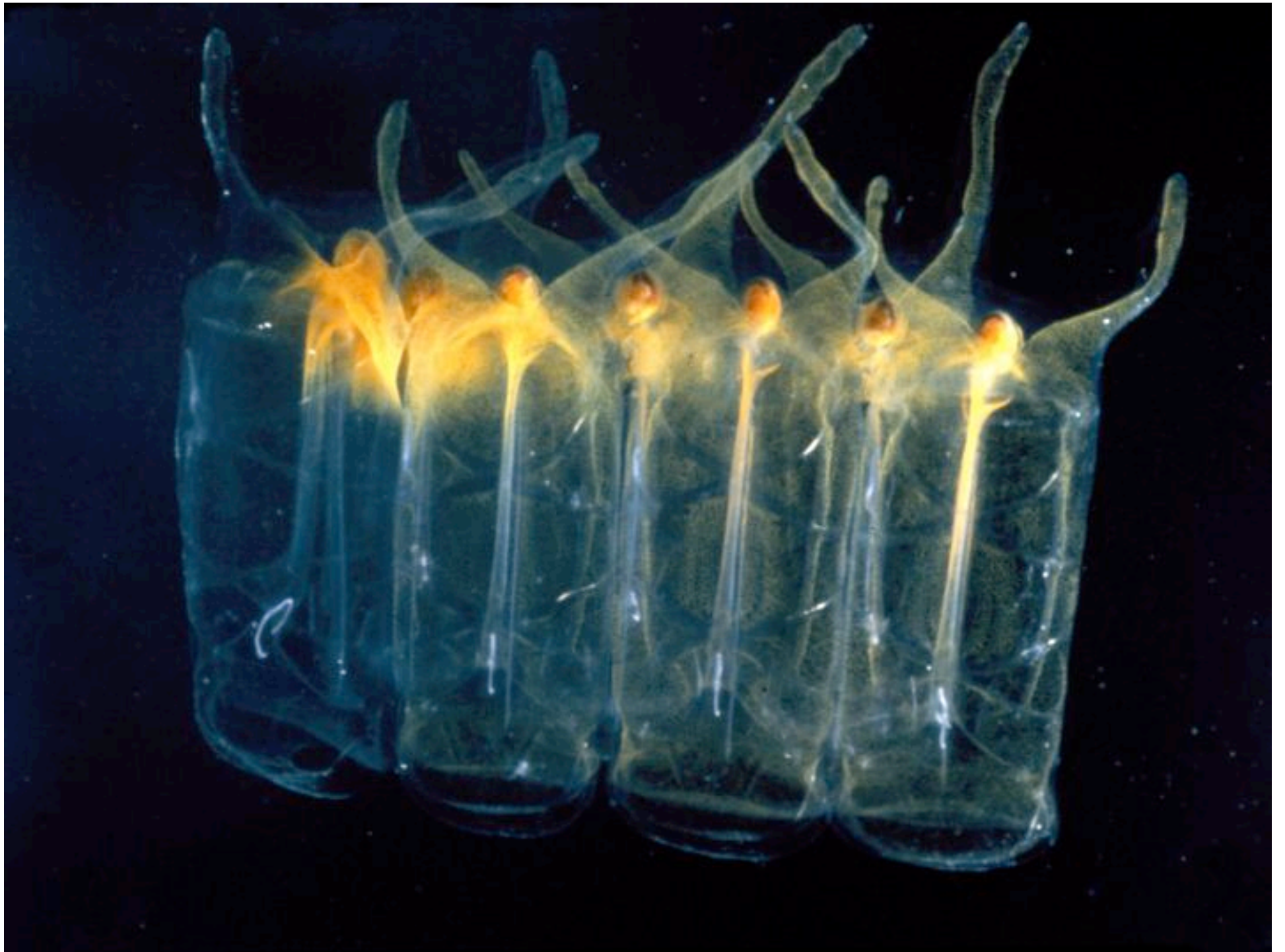








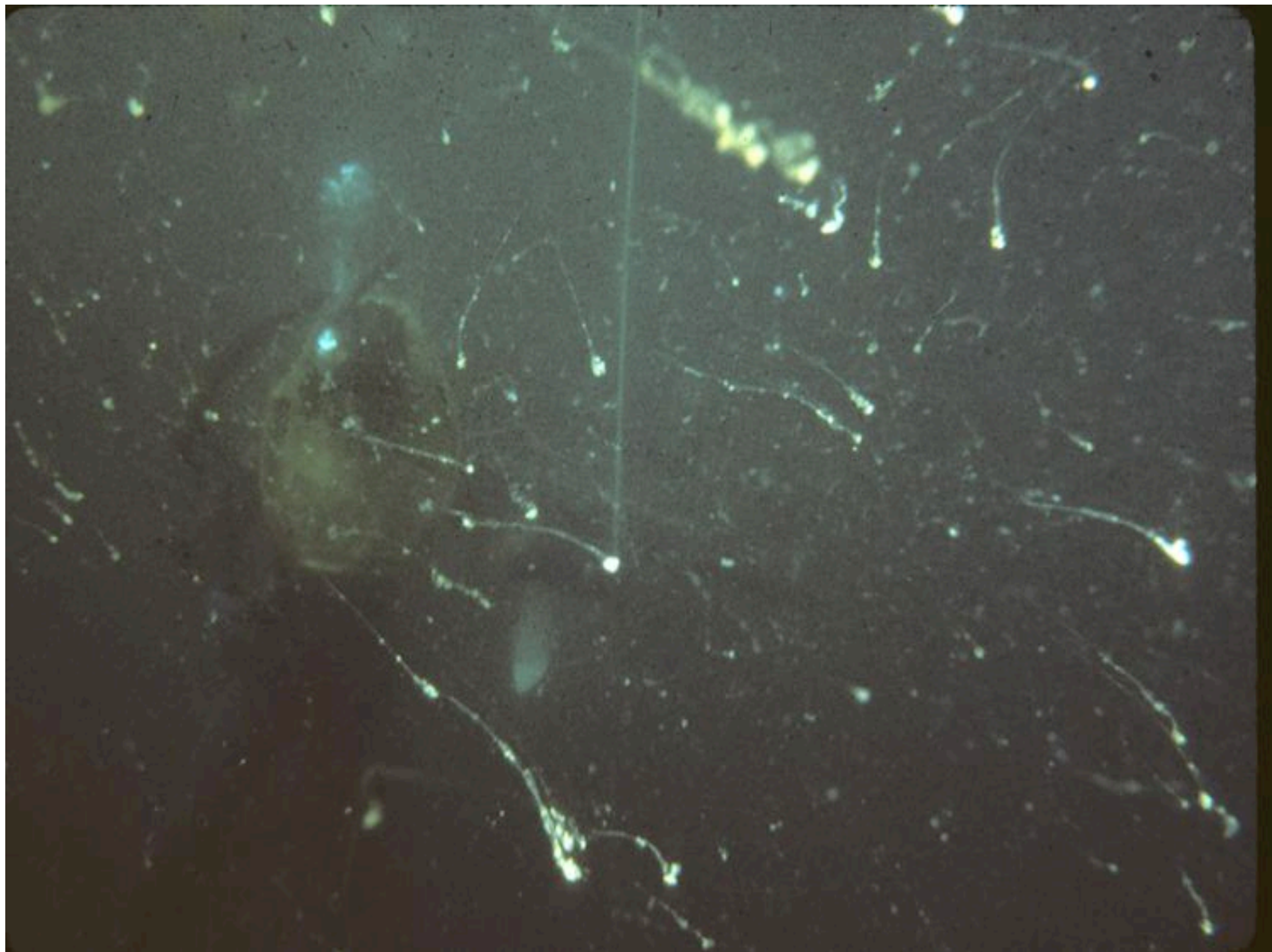




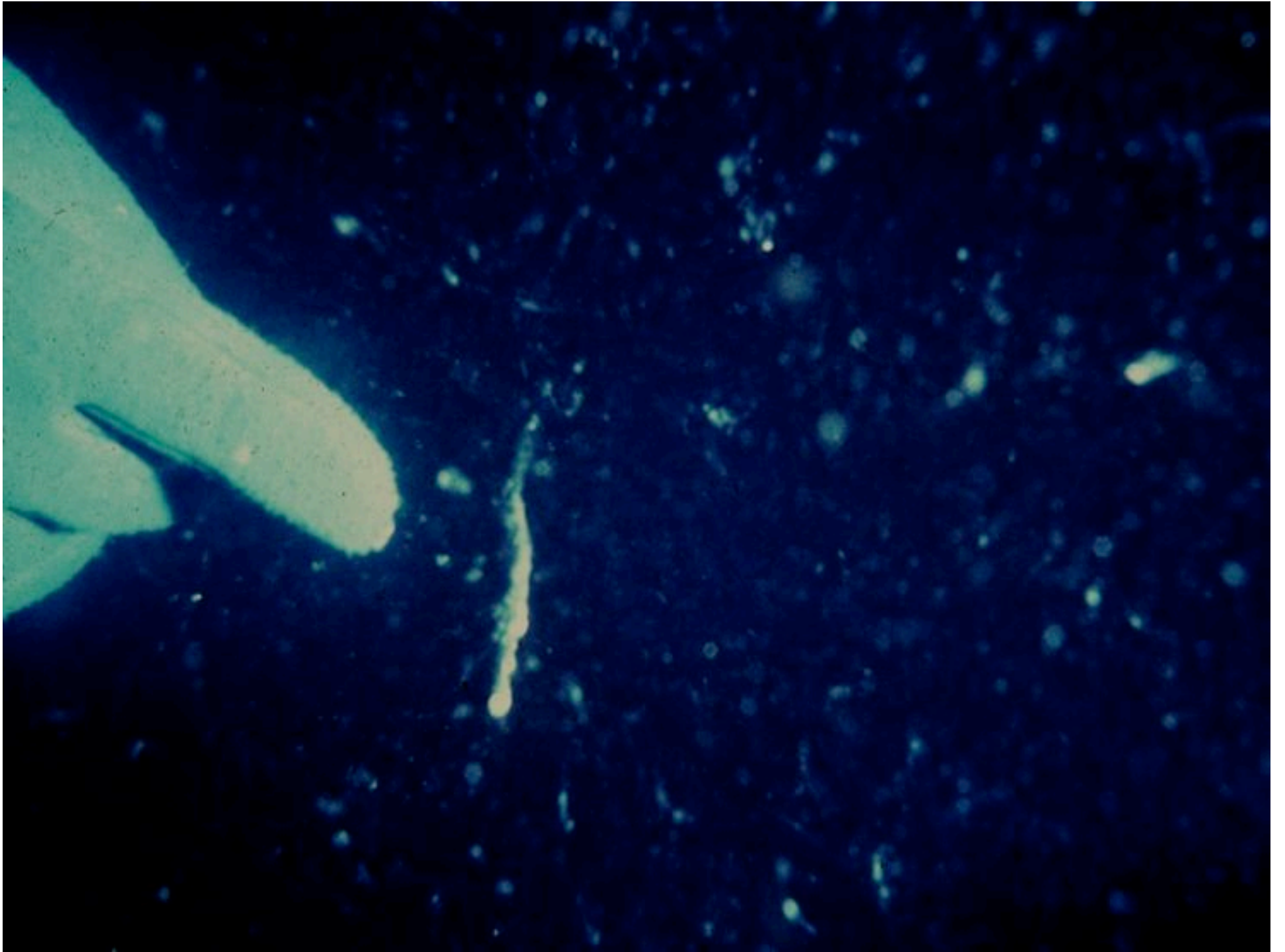




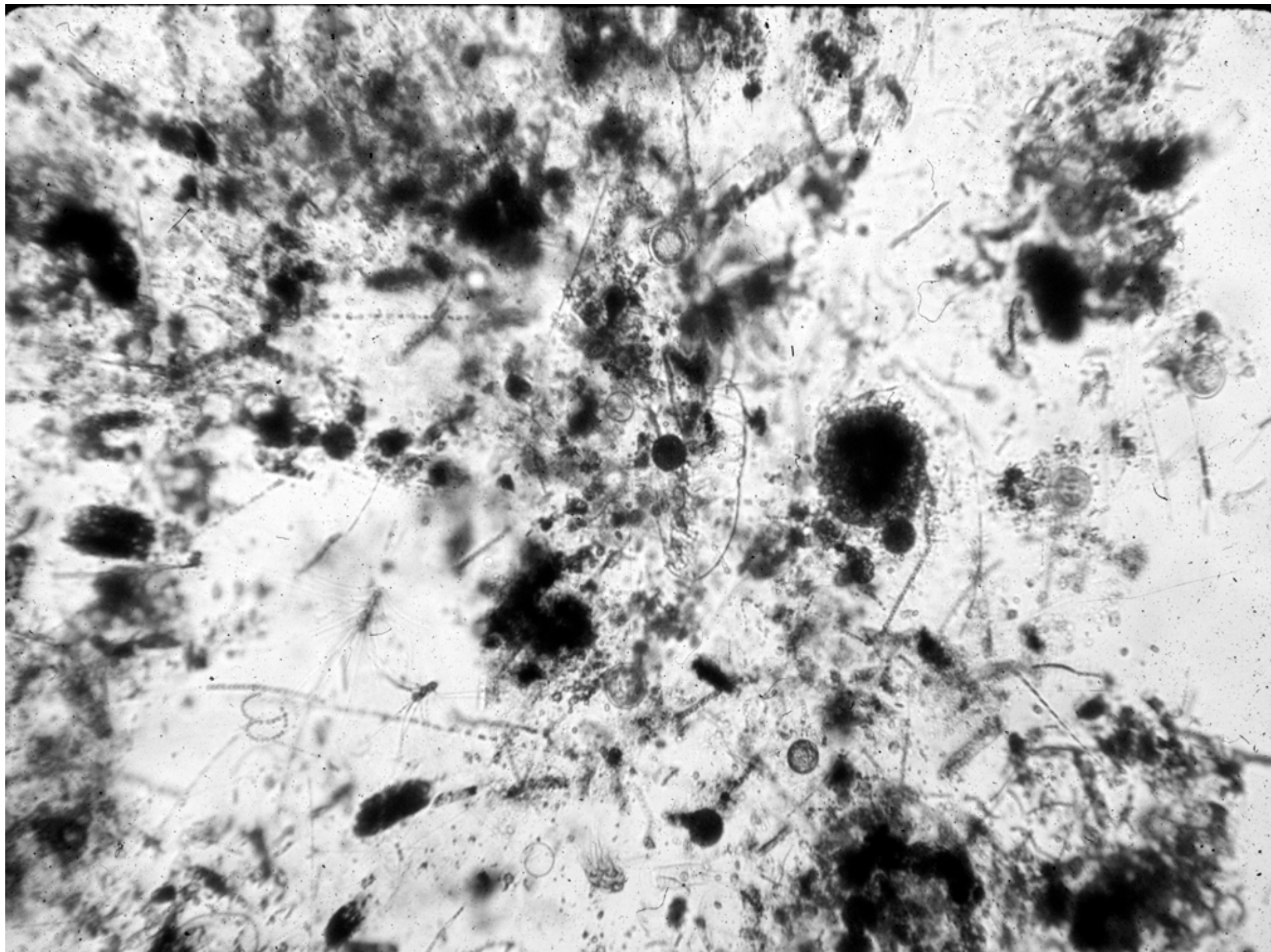
















# Algae Cultivation Systems

Open circulating ponds  
(raceways)



Closed bioreactors











**Cyanotech, HI**



**Yaeyama, Japan**



**Aquacarotene, Australia**



**NBT/Seabiotics, Israel**



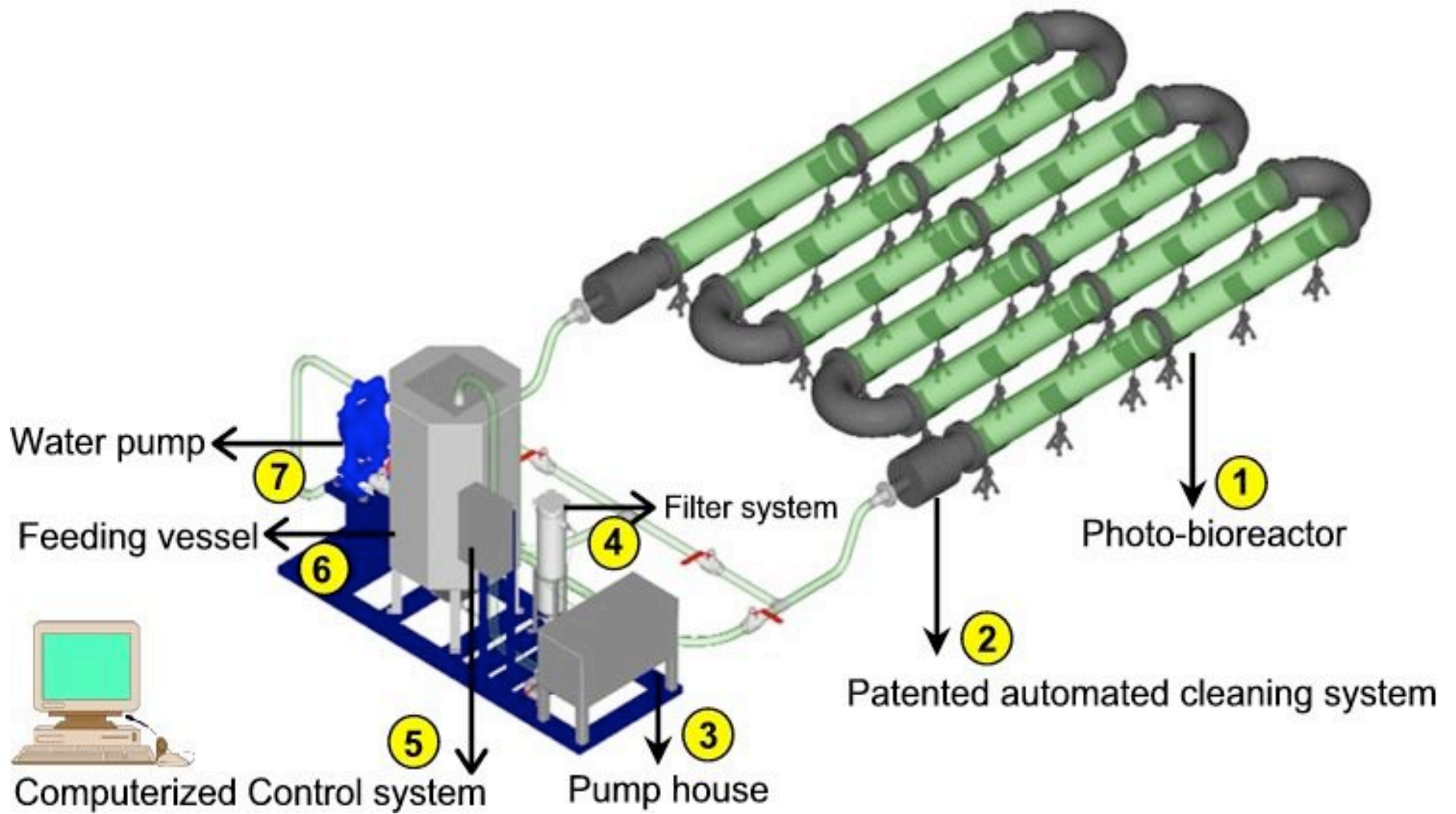
# What's wrong with this picture?





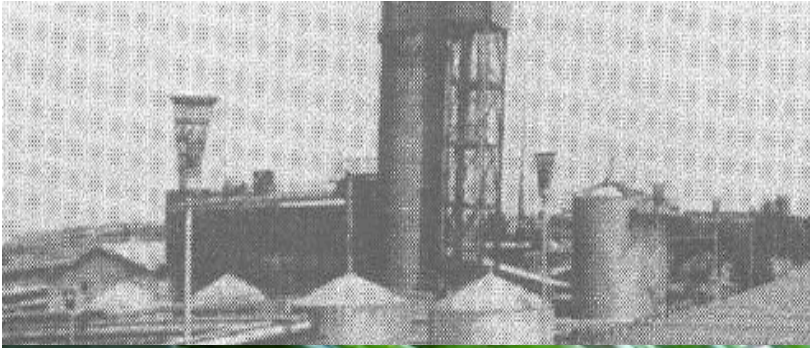


**Bioreactor**



Algal Bioreactor







[www.bioenergy-noe.org](http://www.bioenergy-noe.org)



Vertigo Energy, Texas



Subitec, Germany

NOVA Green, Germany



[www.nerc.ac.uk](http://www.nerc.ac.uk)



**What's wrong with this picture?**





# Not practical to grow algae on land...

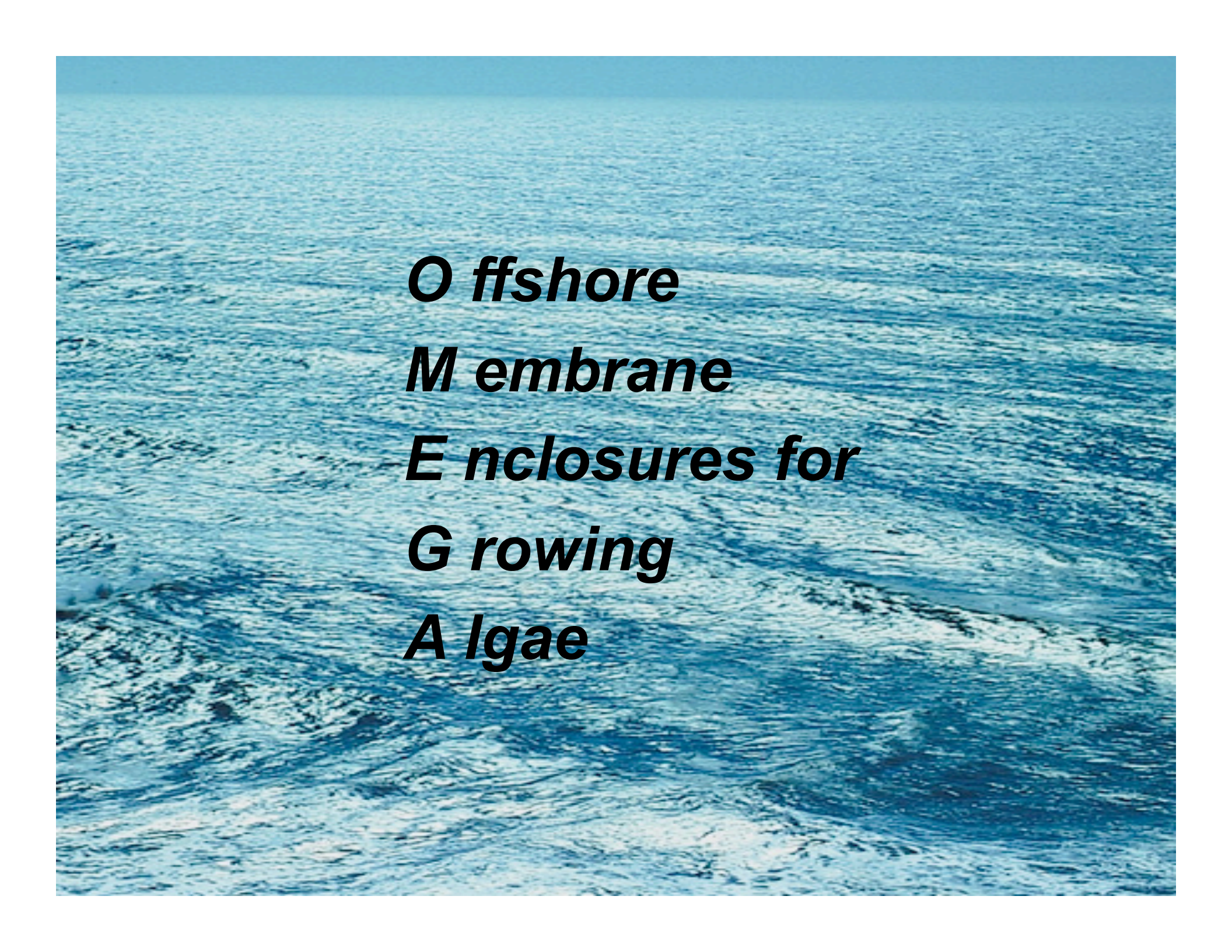
1: Open circulating ponds (raceways)



2: Closed photobioreactors (PBRs)

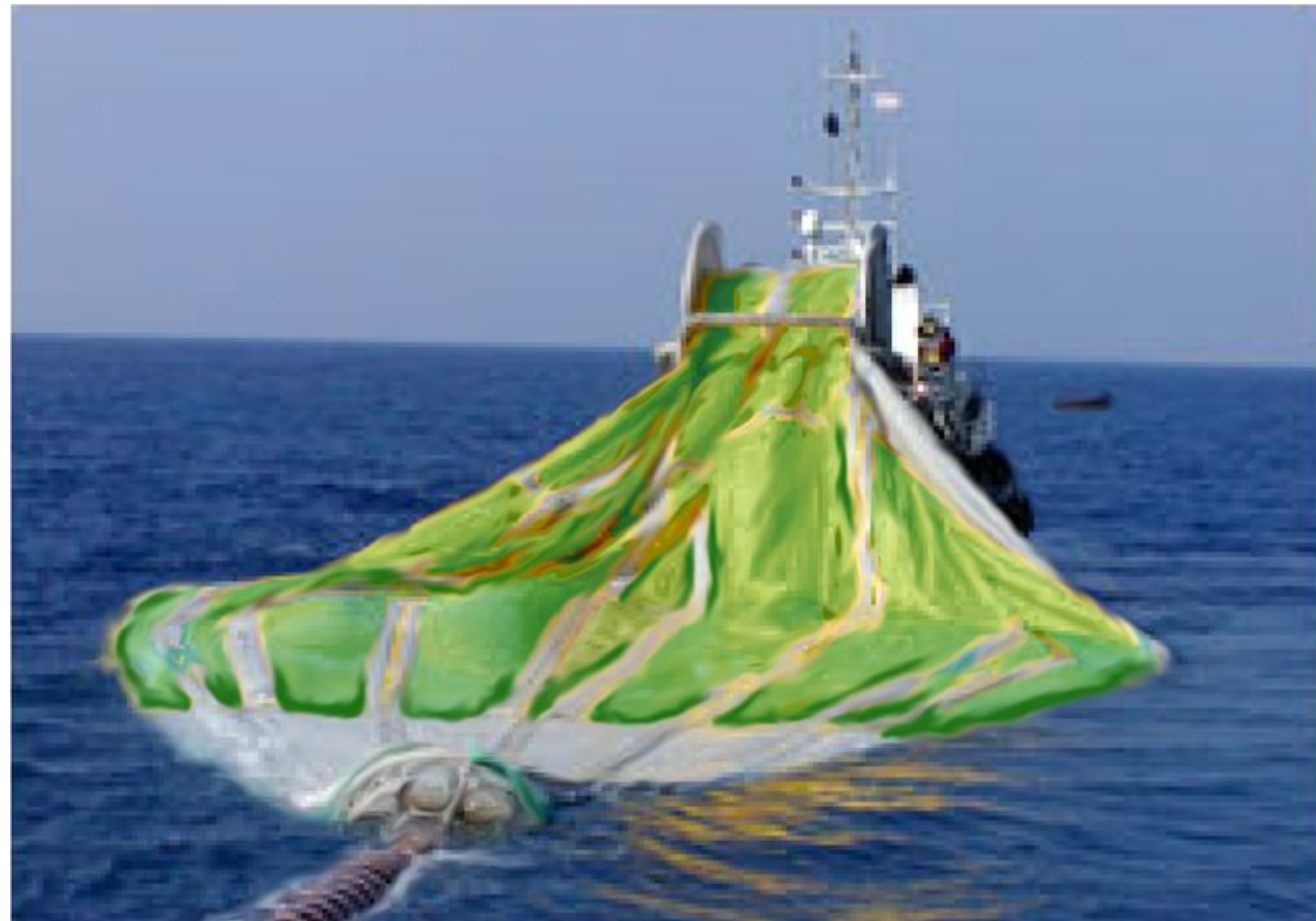




An aerial photograph of the ocean, showing a vast expanse of blue water with a white wake from a boat in the lower right. The text is overlaid in the center-left area.

***O ffshore***  
***M embrane***  
***E nclosures for***  
***G rowing***  
***A lgae***



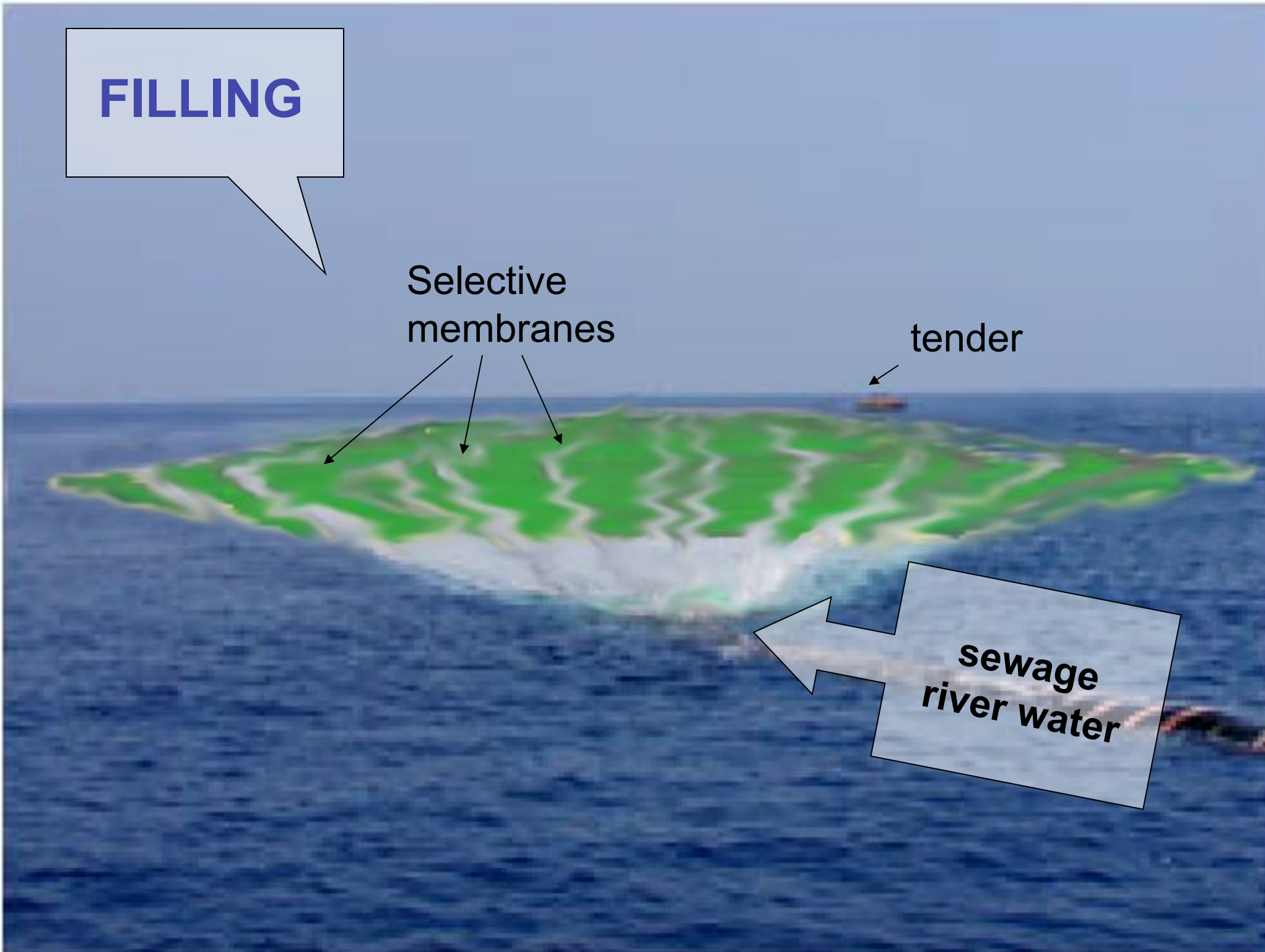


**FILLING**

Selective  
membranes

tender

sewage  
river water





**GROWING**

**Solar Energy**

$O_2$

**Gas exchange**

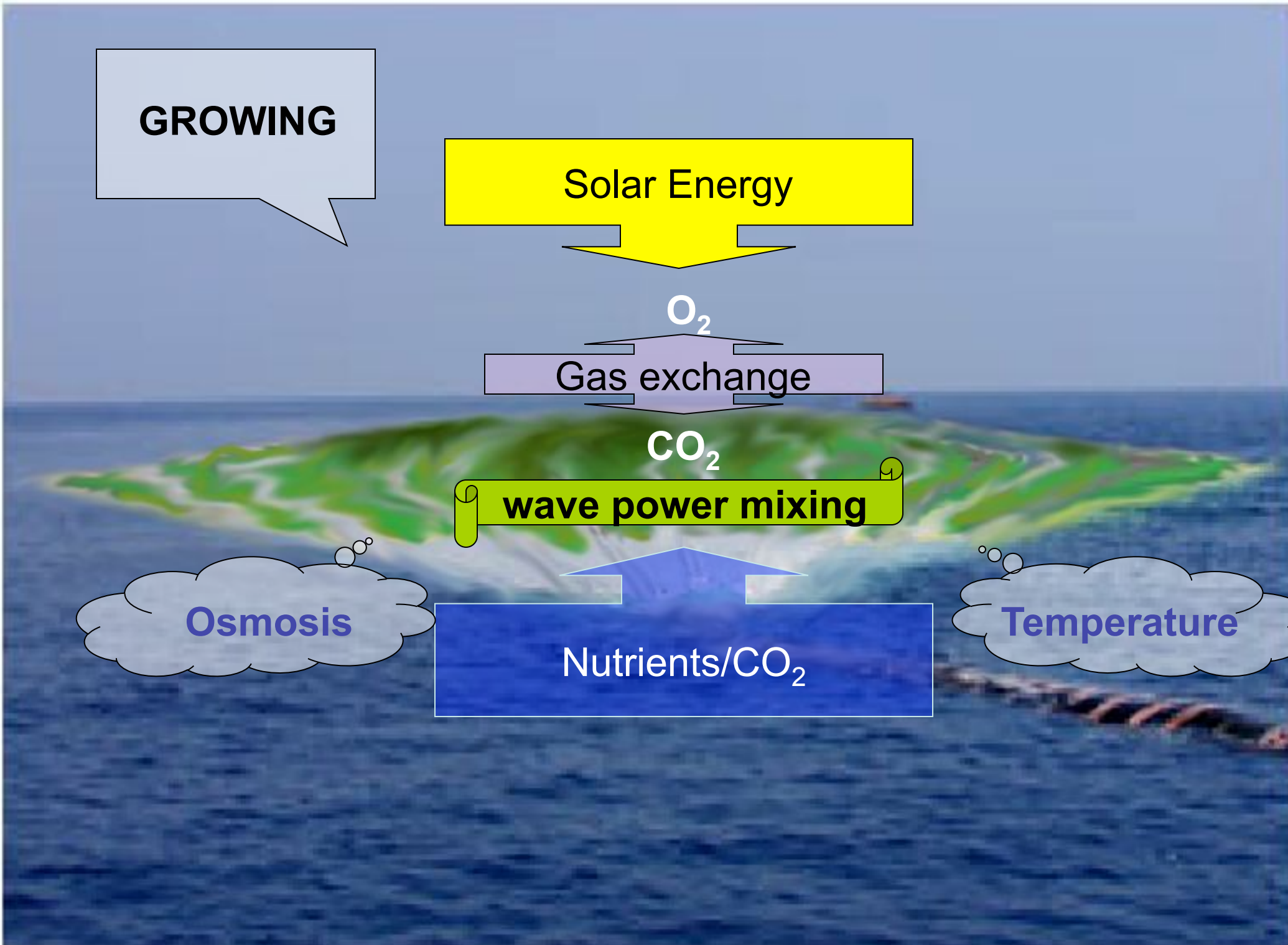
$CO_2$

**wave power mixing**

**Osmosis**

**Nutrients/ $CO_2$**

**Temperature**



**DEWATERING**

FO membranes

osmosis

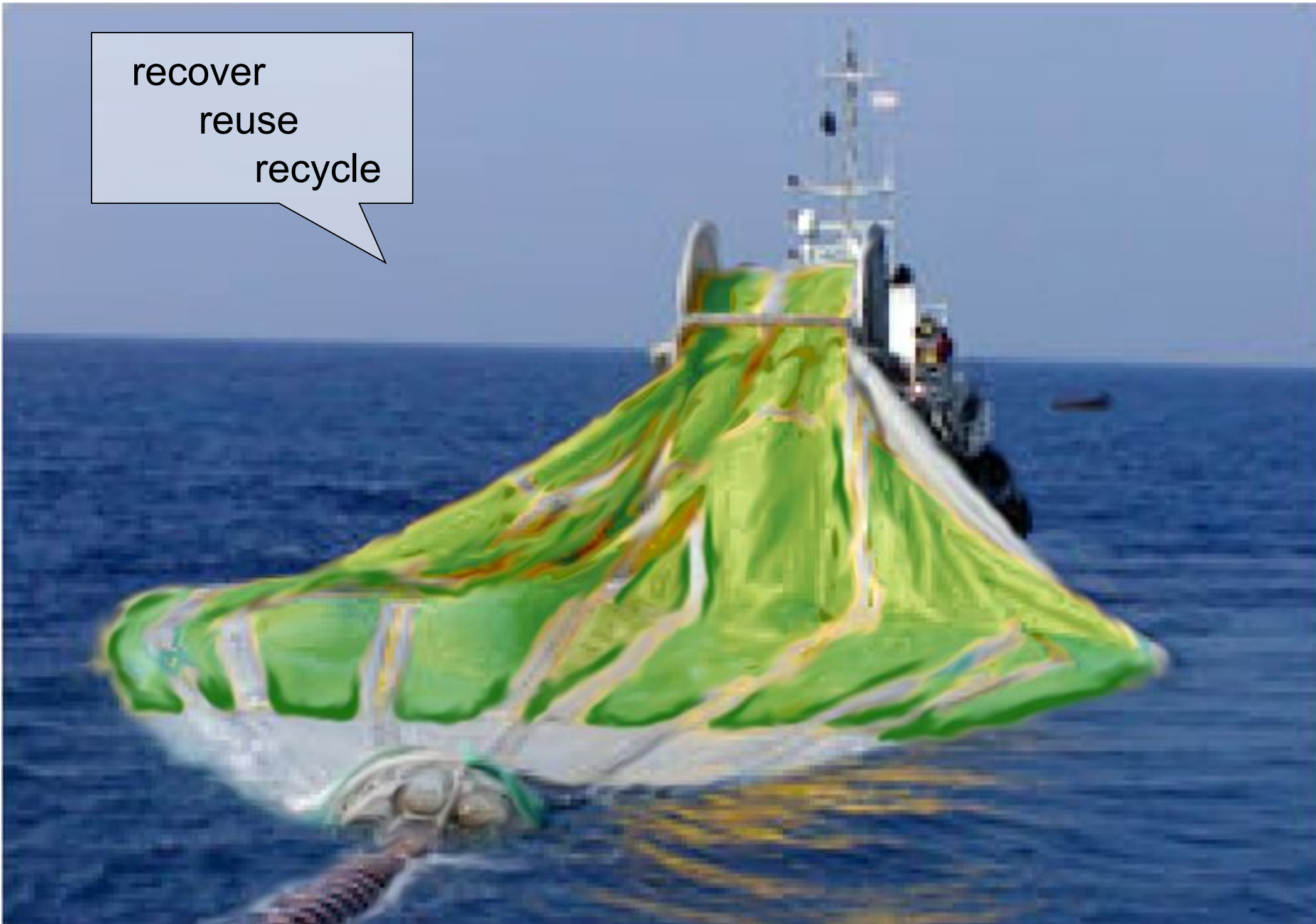
osmosis

osmosis



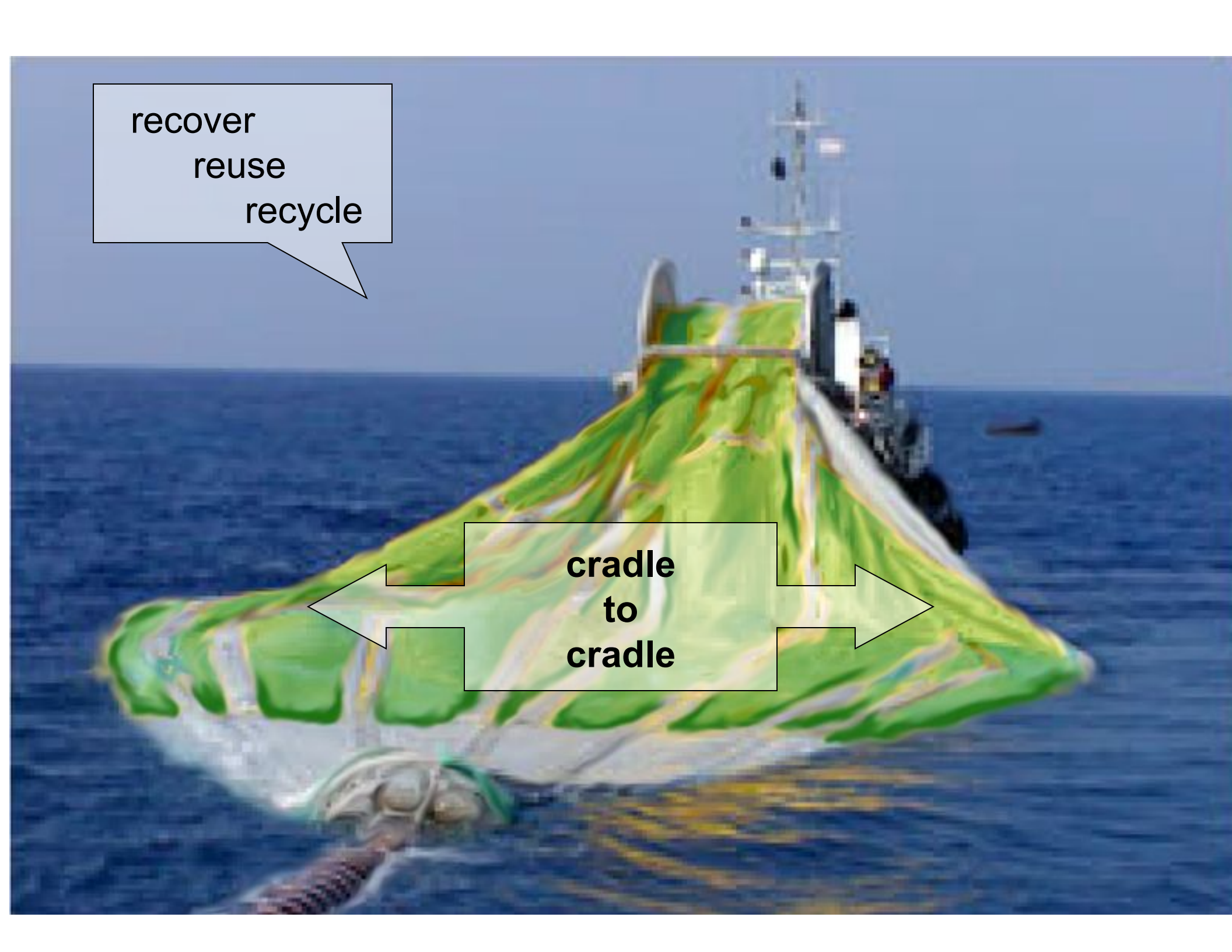


recover  
reuse  
recycle



recover  
reuse  
recycle

**cradle  
to  
cradle**





What we get...

Solar Energy utilized

O<sub>2</sub>

CO<sub>2</sub> Sequestration

CO<sub>2</sub>

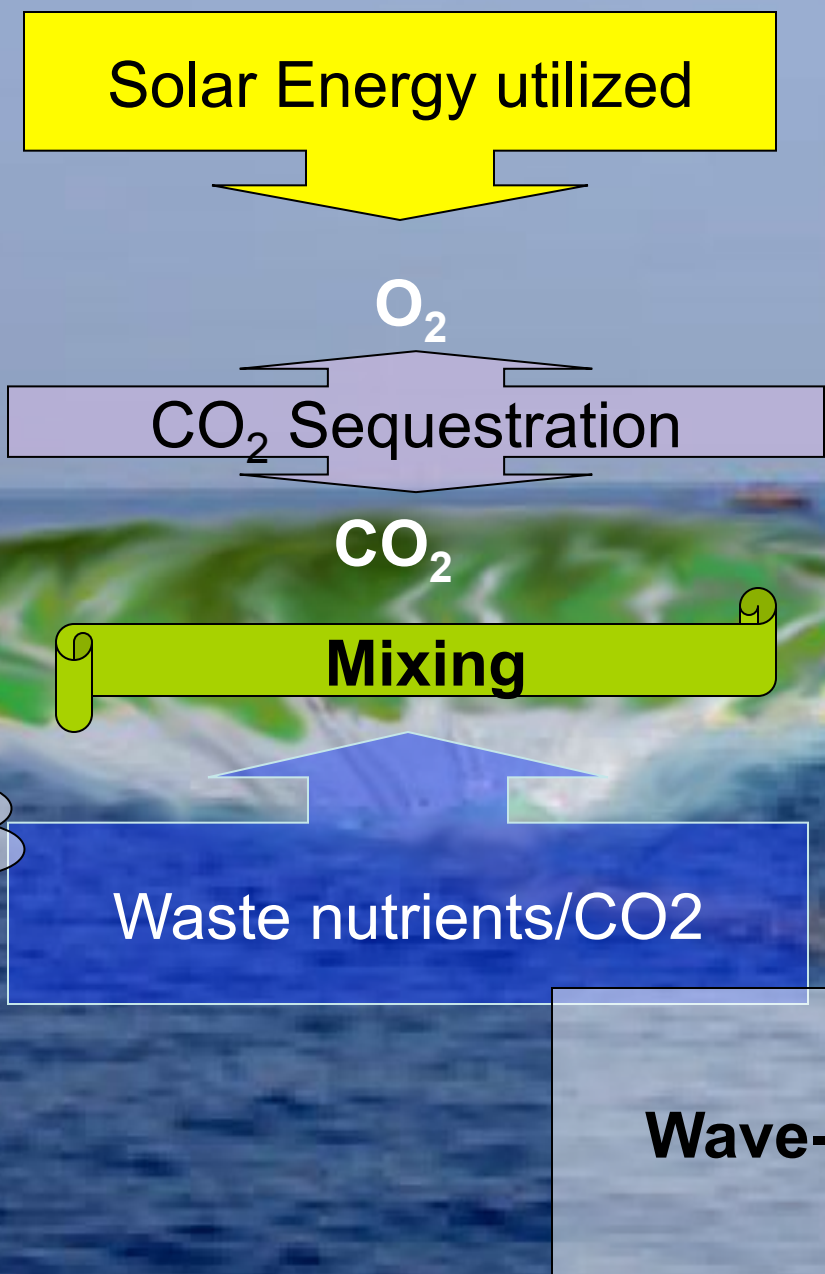
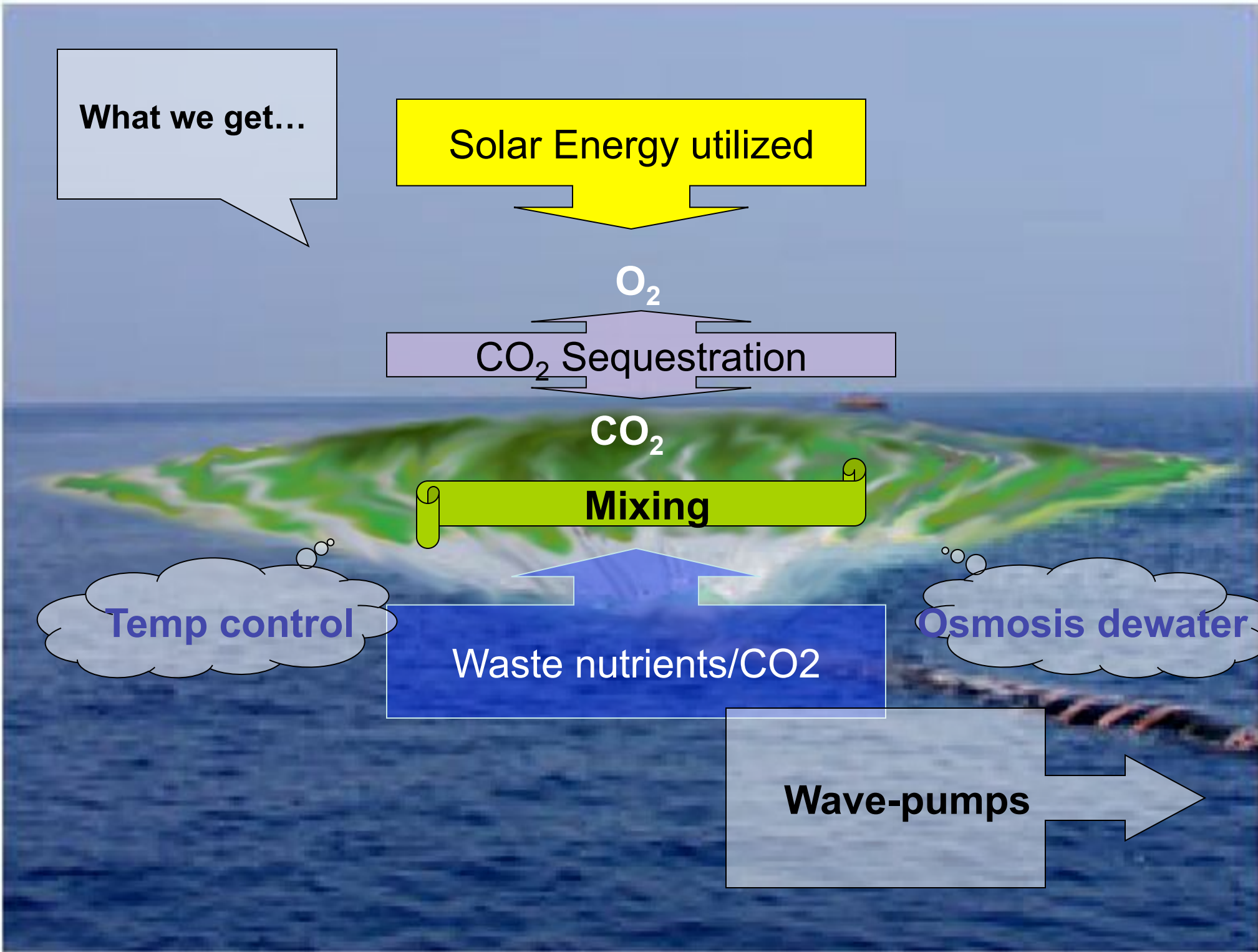
Mixing

Temp control

Waste nutrients/CO<sub>2</sub>

Osmosis dewater

Wave-pumps



**What it costs...**

**Maintenance  
Tending-monitoring  
Reusing, removing  
Loss...**

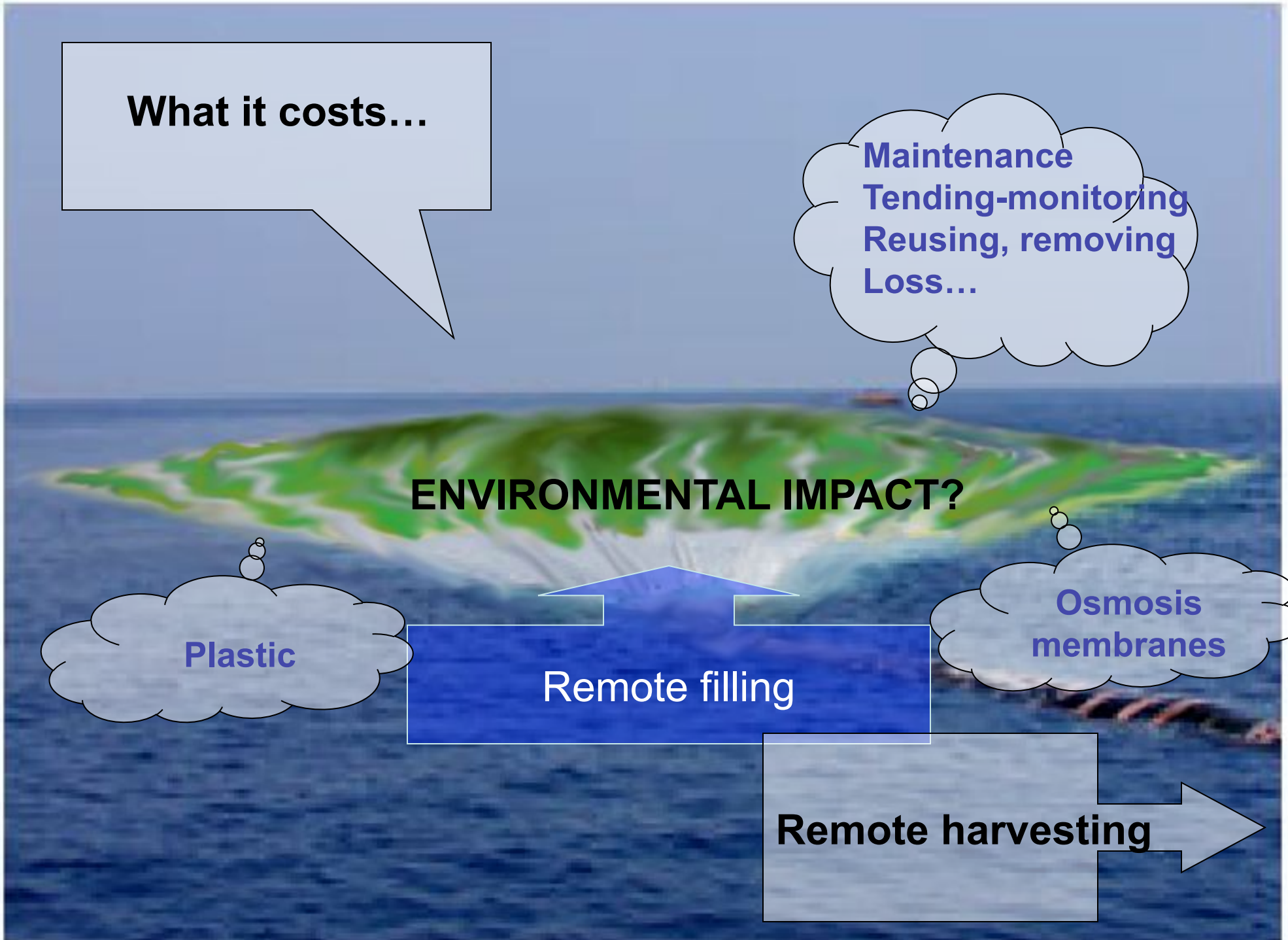
**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT?**

**Plastic**

**Remote filling**

**Osmosis  
membranes**

**Remote harvesting**





**Benefits?**

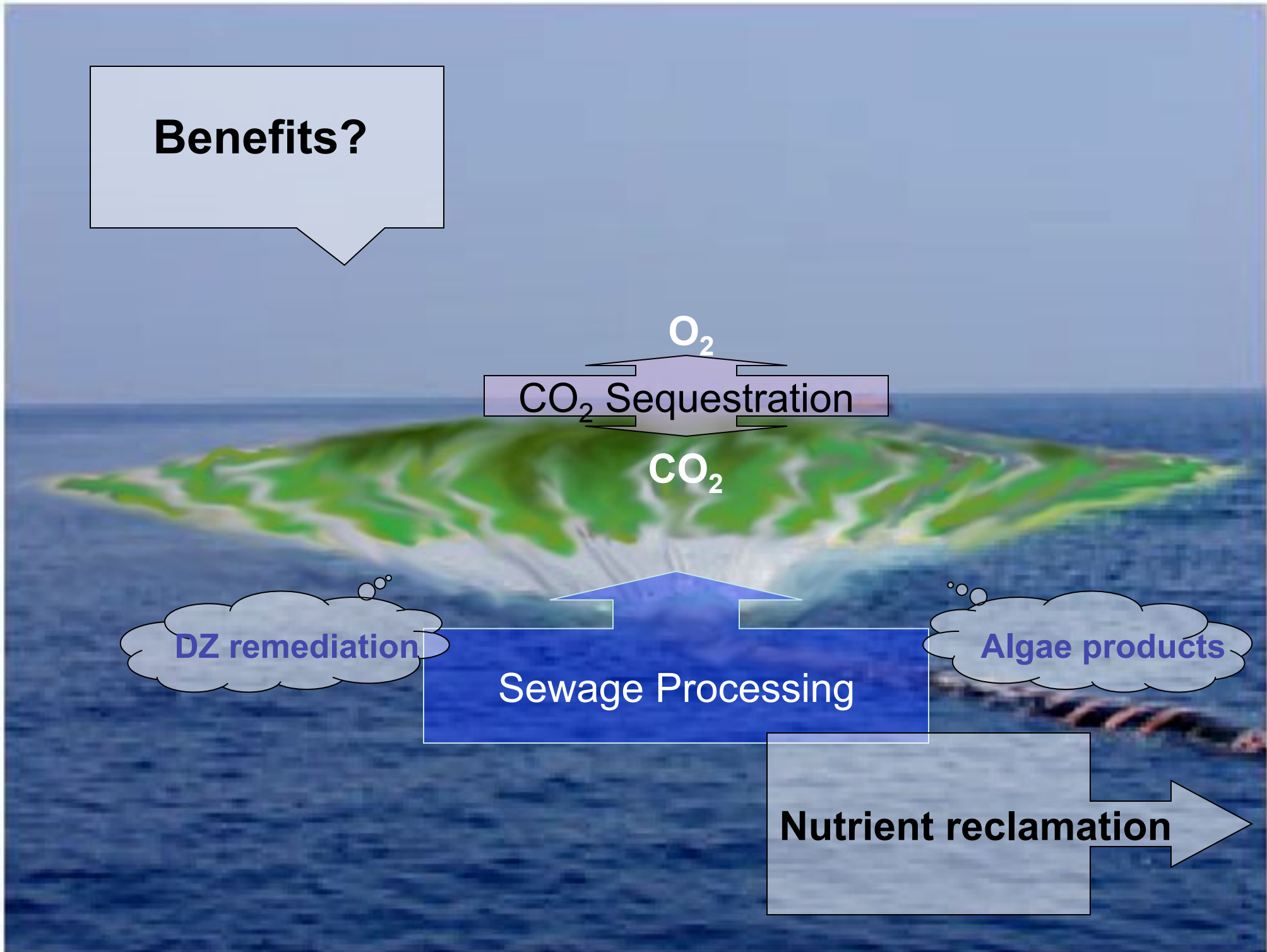
$O_2$   
**CO<sub>2</sub> Sequestration**  
 $CO_2$

**DZ remediation**

**Sewage Processing**

**Algae products**

**Nutrient reclamation**



**Critical Factors\***

raceway



bioreactor



AlgaeOMEGA

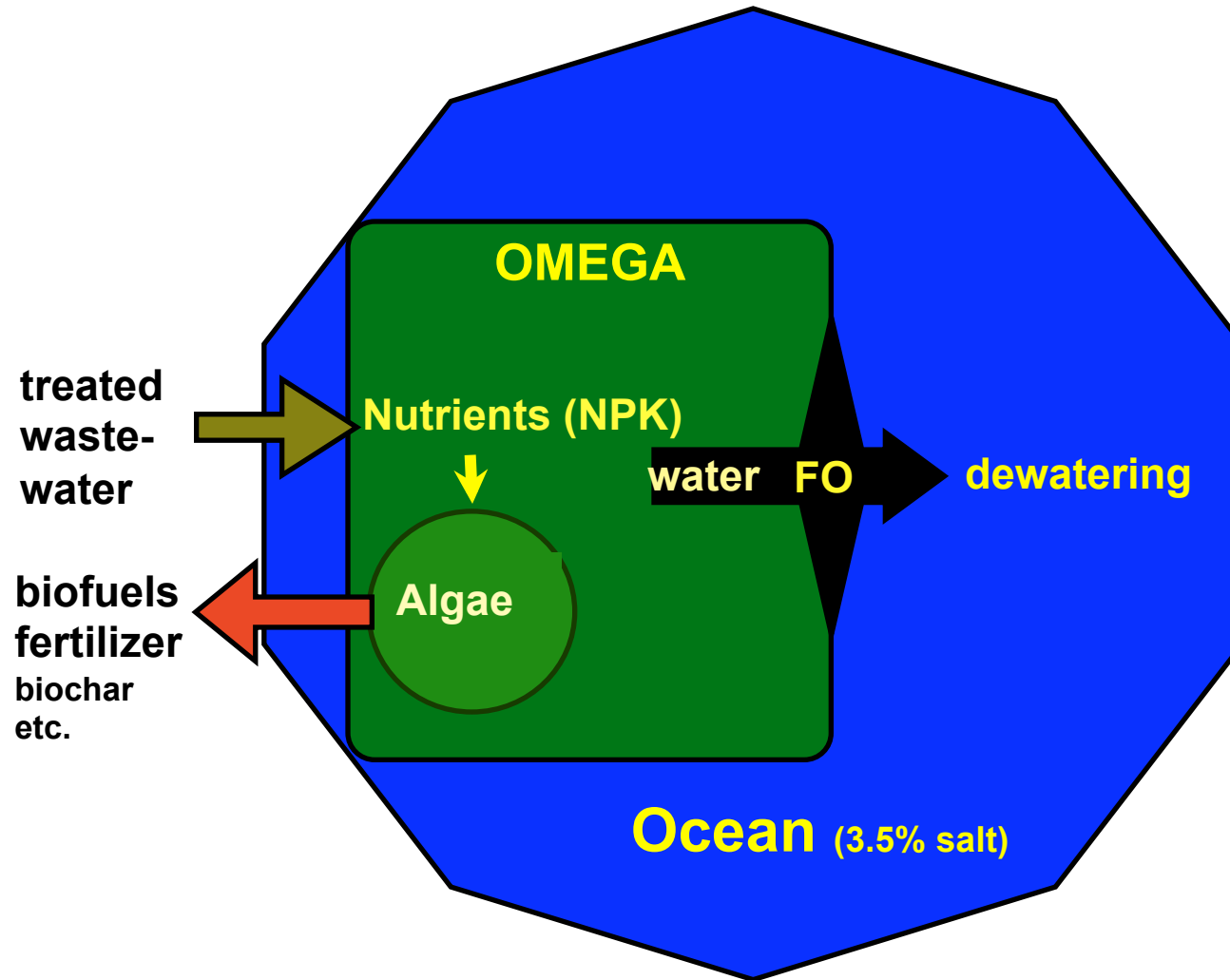


Cap/op cost	Green	Red	Green ?
Evaporation	Red	Green	Green ?
Temp. control	Green	Red	Green ?
Invasive spp.	Red	Green	Green ?
Mixing	Green	Red	Green ?
Harvesting	Green	Green	Green ?
Envir. impact	Red	Red	Green ?

**\*Biology, Engineering, Environment, Economics**



# OMEGA system

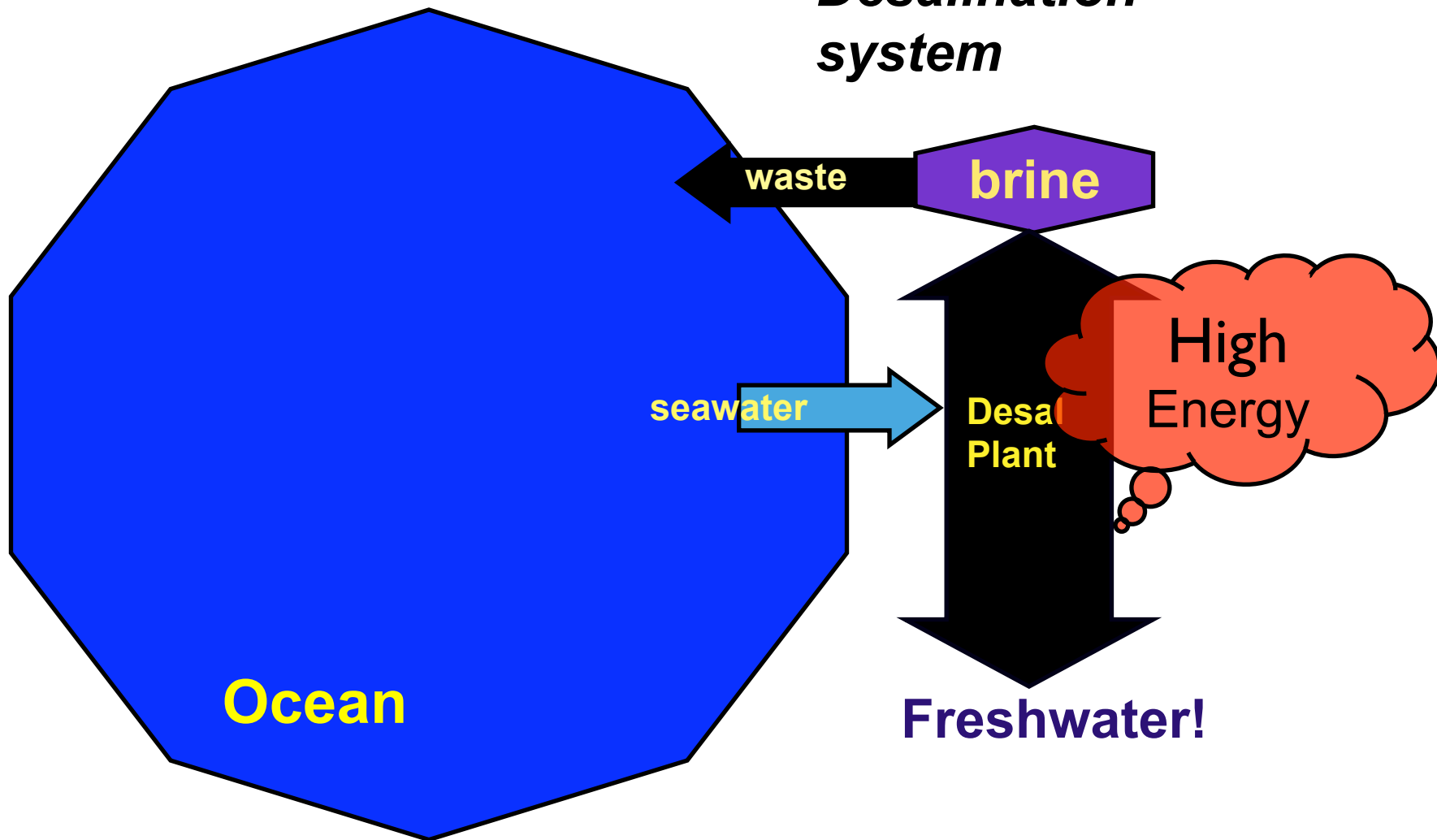


What about the water?





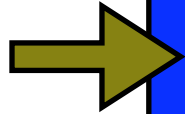
# *Desalination system*



# OMEGA system

# Desalination system

treated waste-water



nutrients



Algae

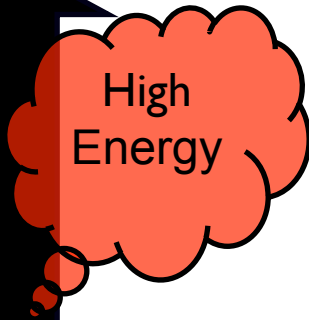
water FO



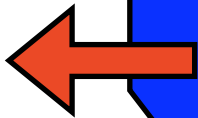
seawater



Desal Plant



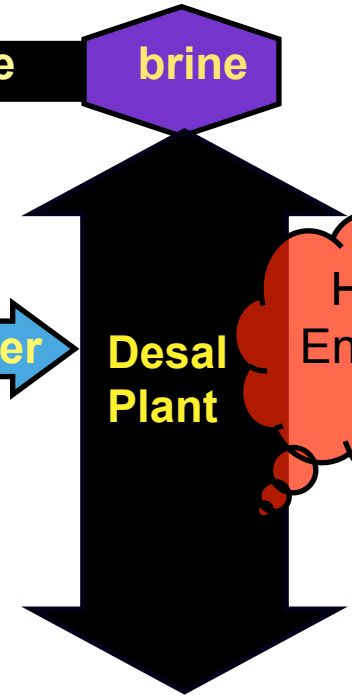
biofuels  
fertilizer  
biochar  
etc.



ocean dewatering

waste

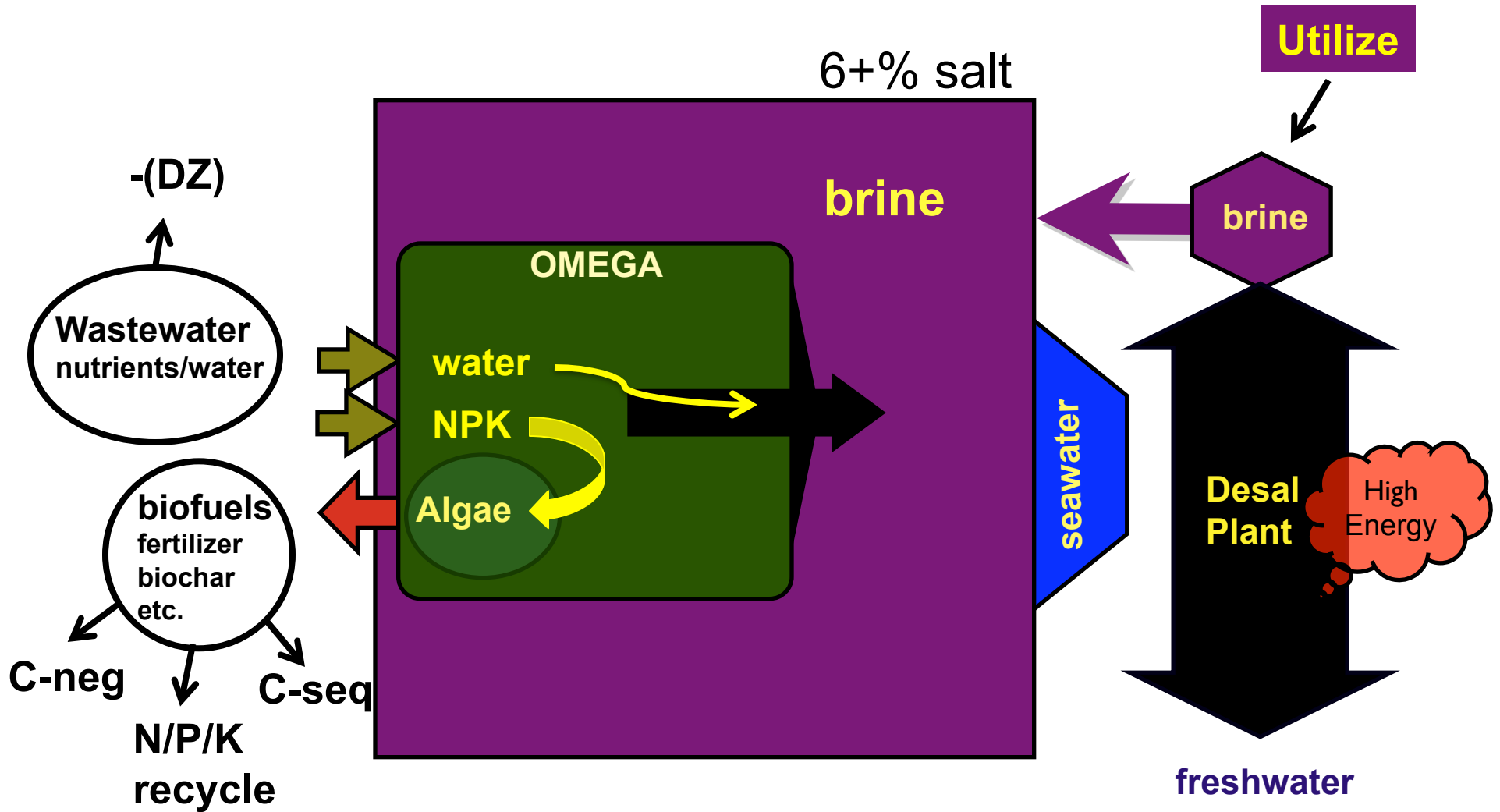
brine



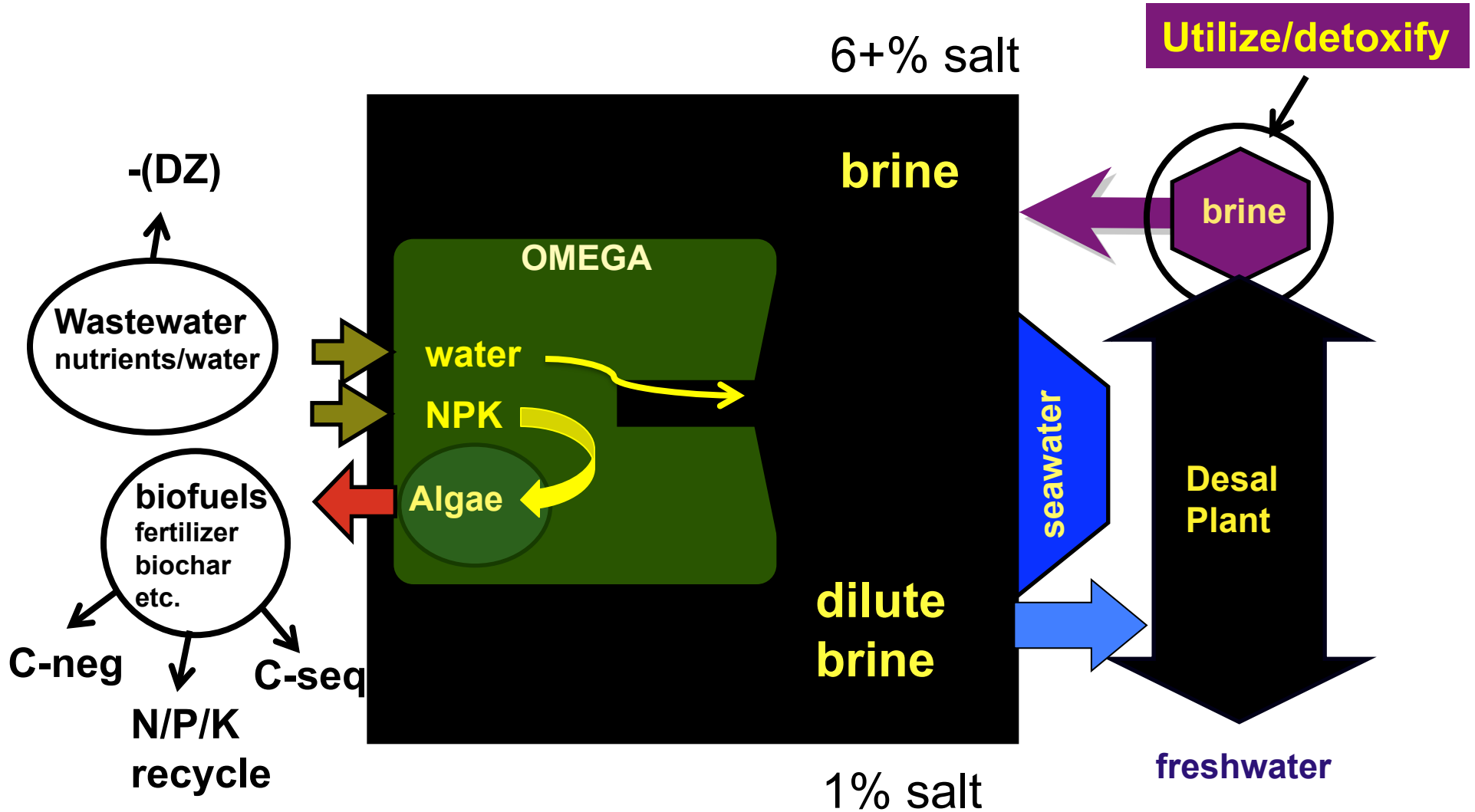
freshwater



# Desalgae system (OMEGA + Desalination)

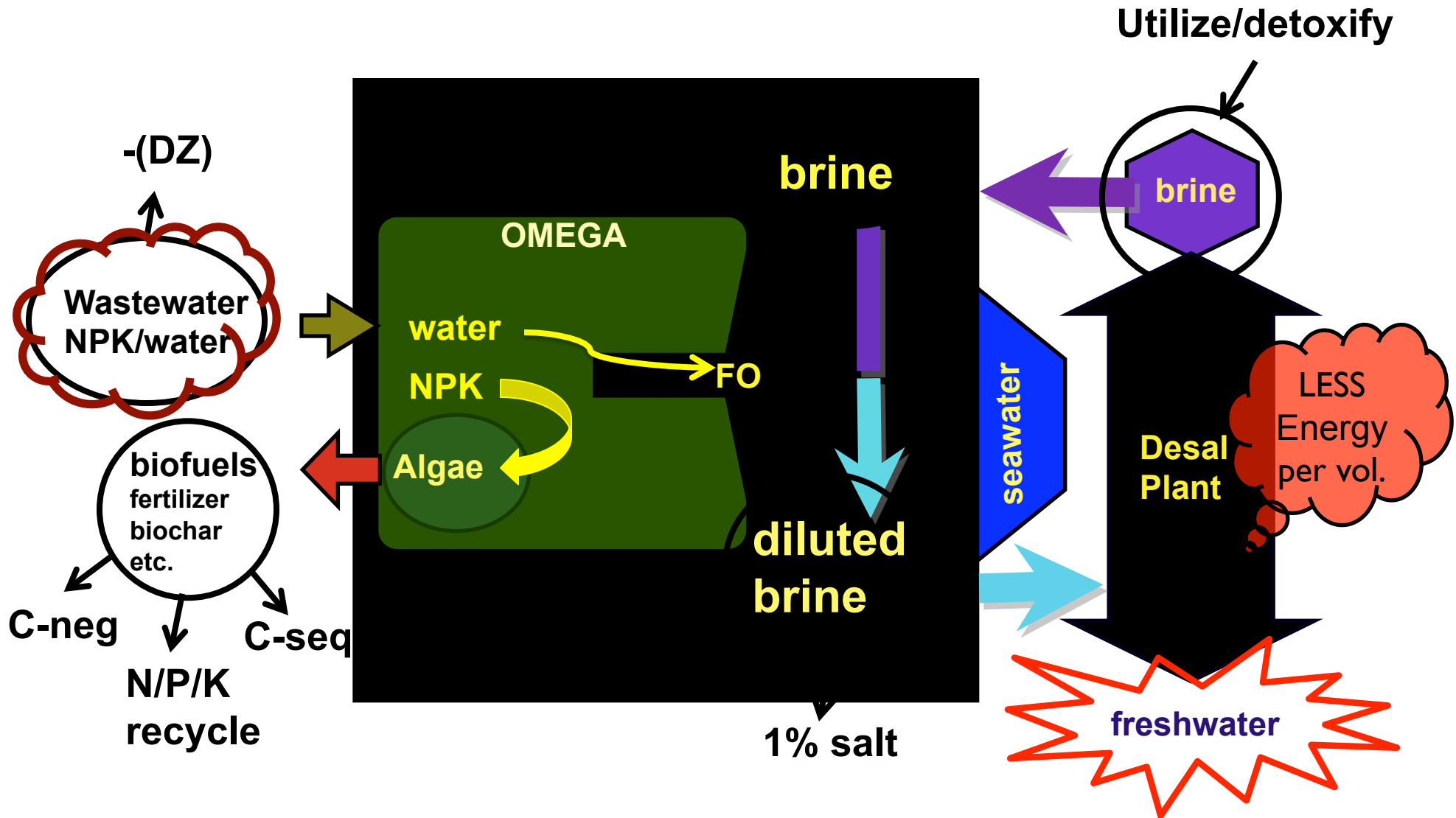


# Desalgae system (OMEGA + Desalination)





# Desalgae system (OMEGA + Desalination)





# **OMEGA Challenges?**

- **Biology**
- **Engineering**
- **Economics**
- **Environment** *(policy, politics)*

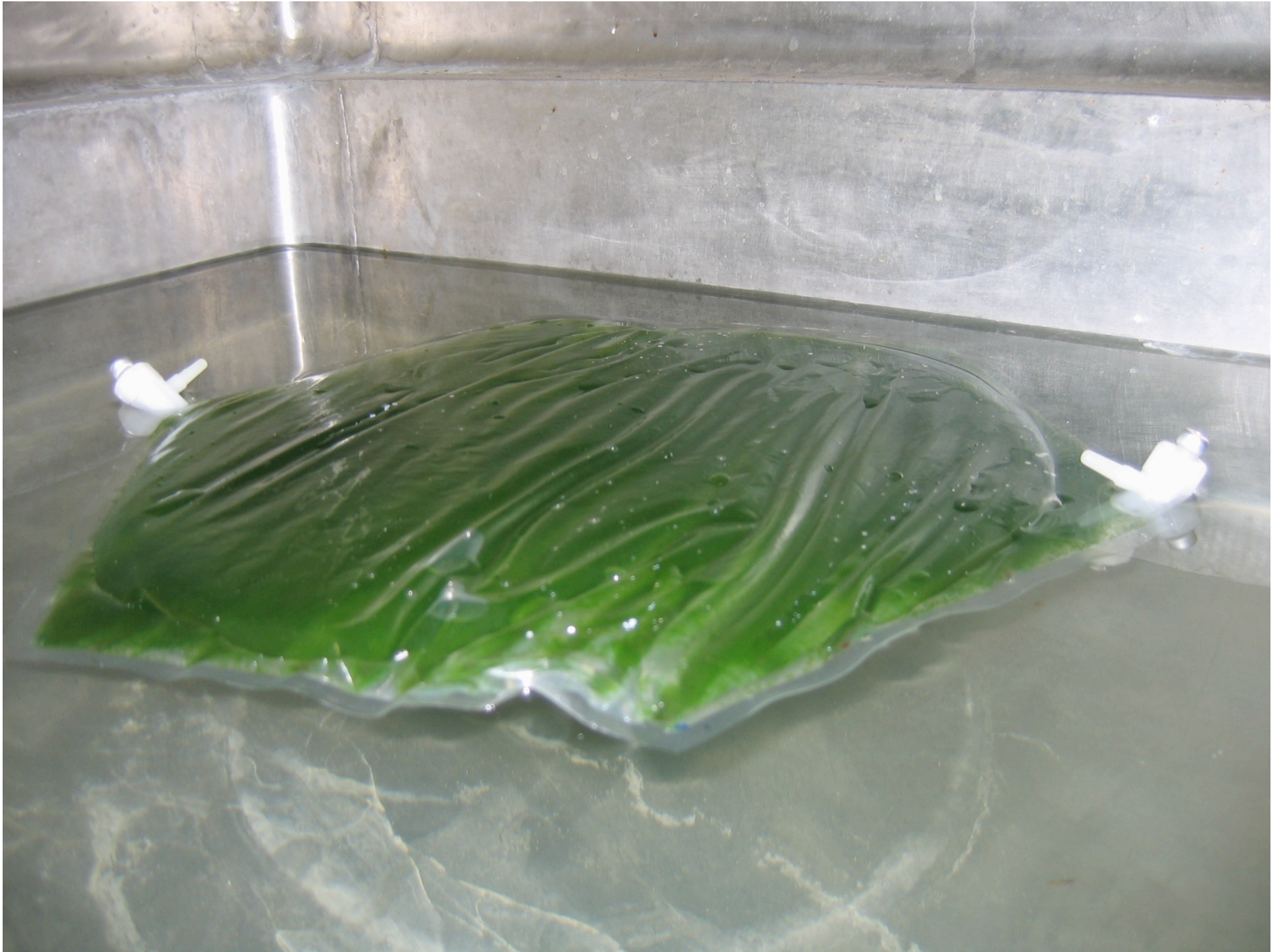




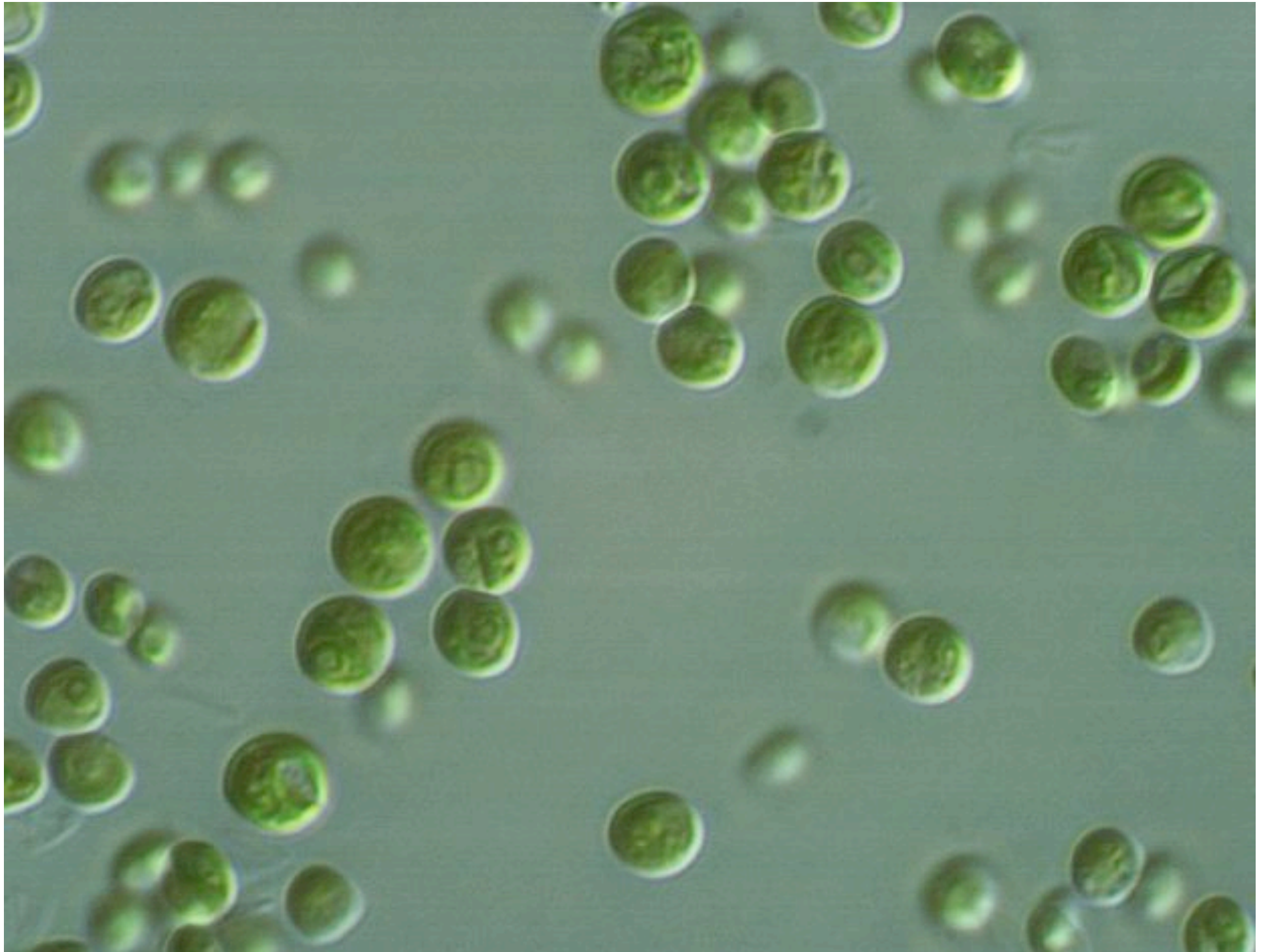
# **OMEGA**

- ***What have we done?***
- ***Barriers to success?***
  - ***Materials***
  - ***Logistics***
- ***Collaboration?***









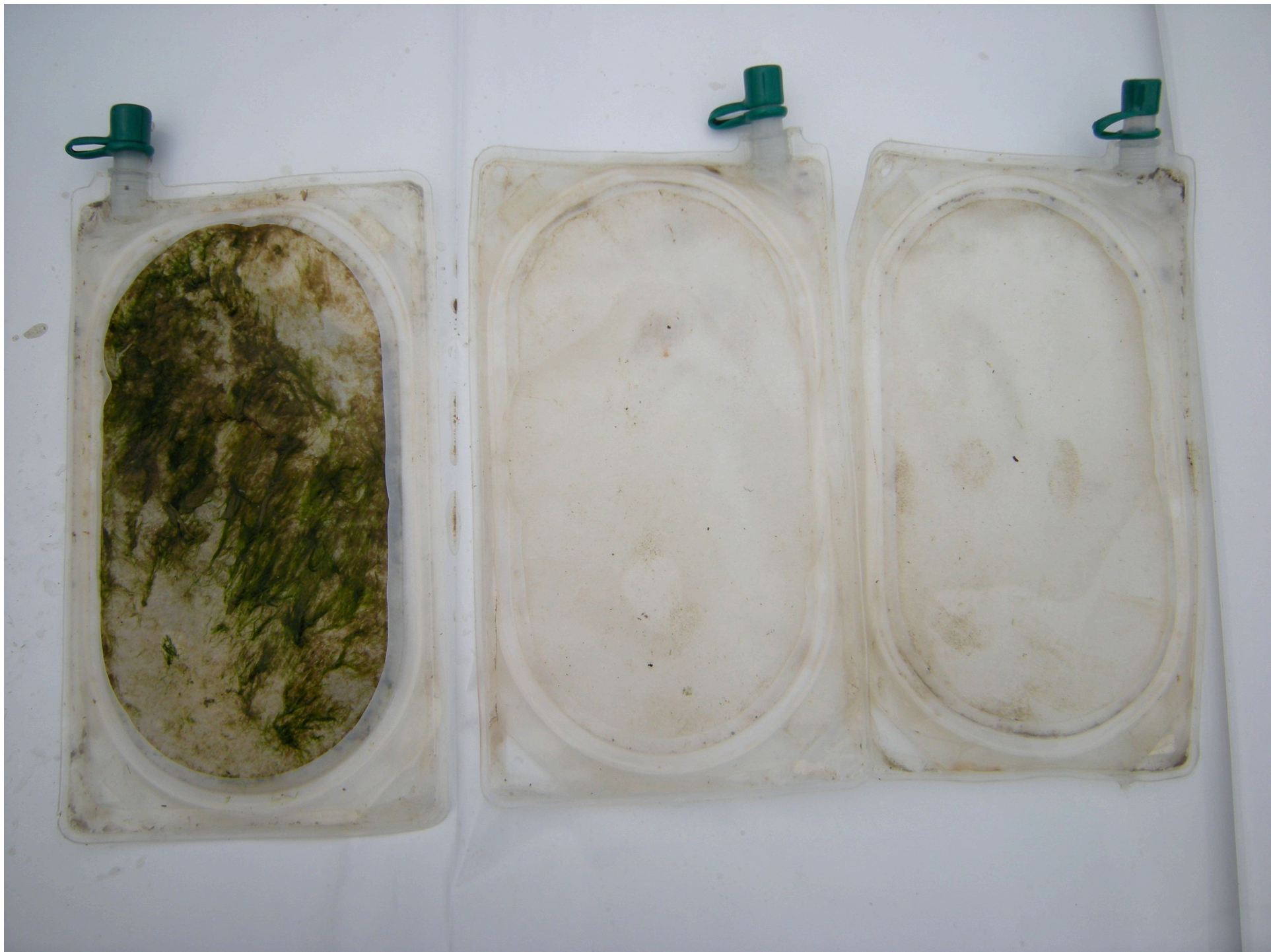




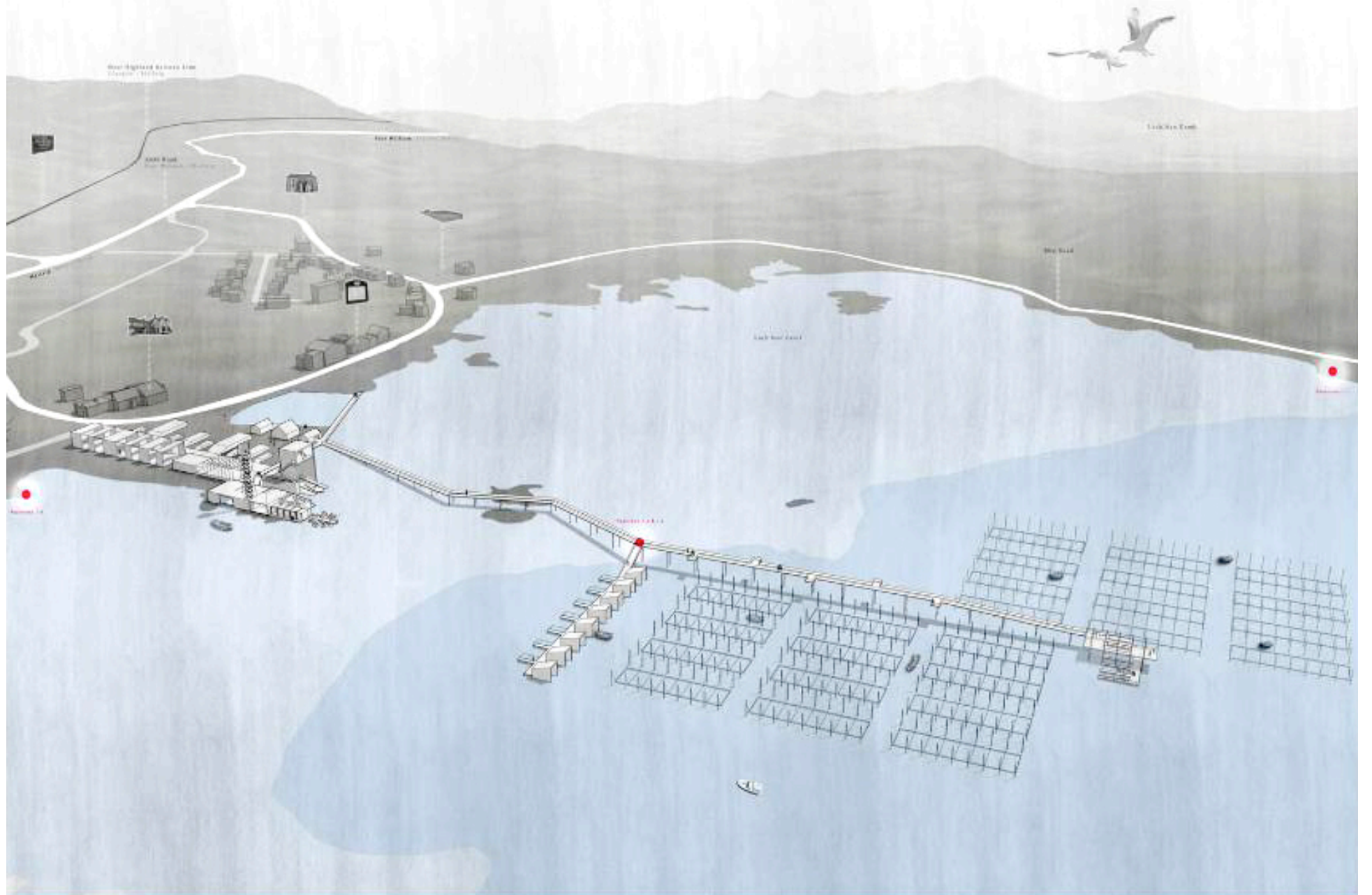






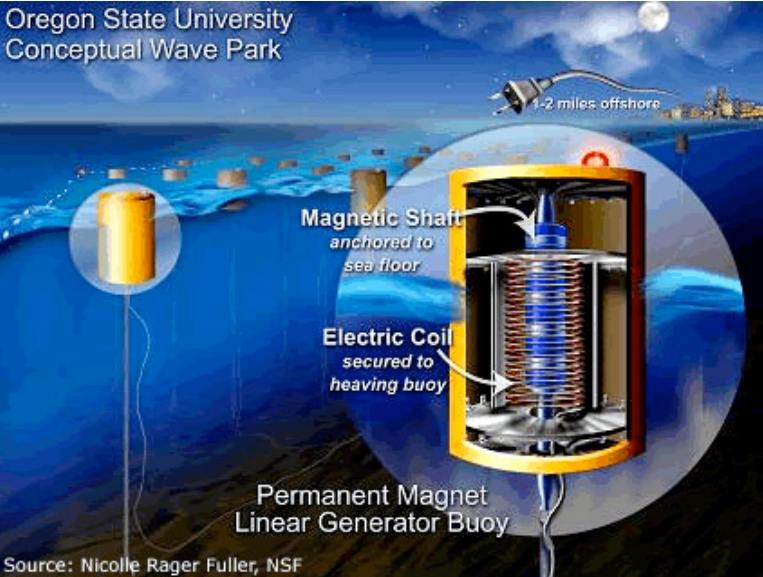
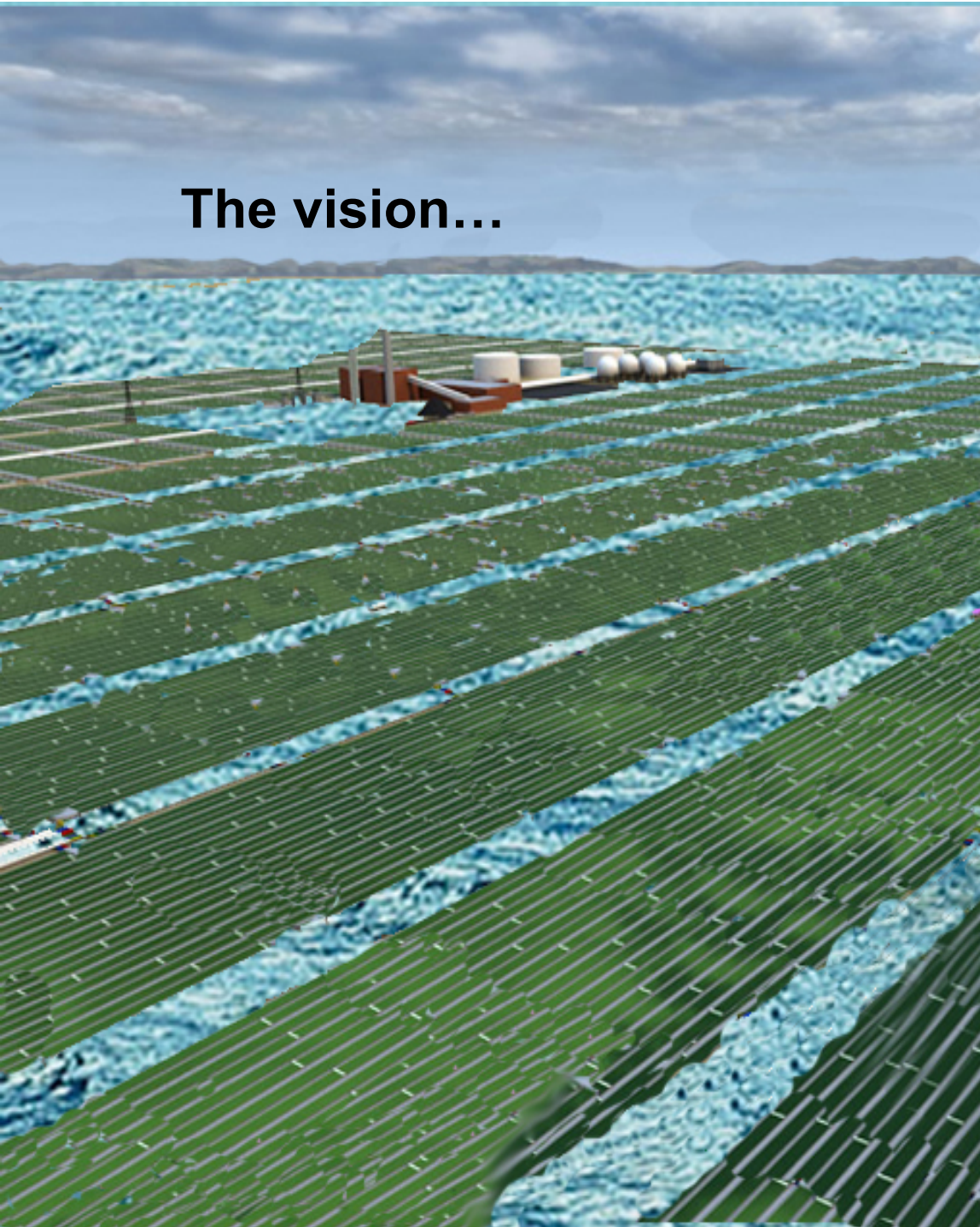








# The vision...



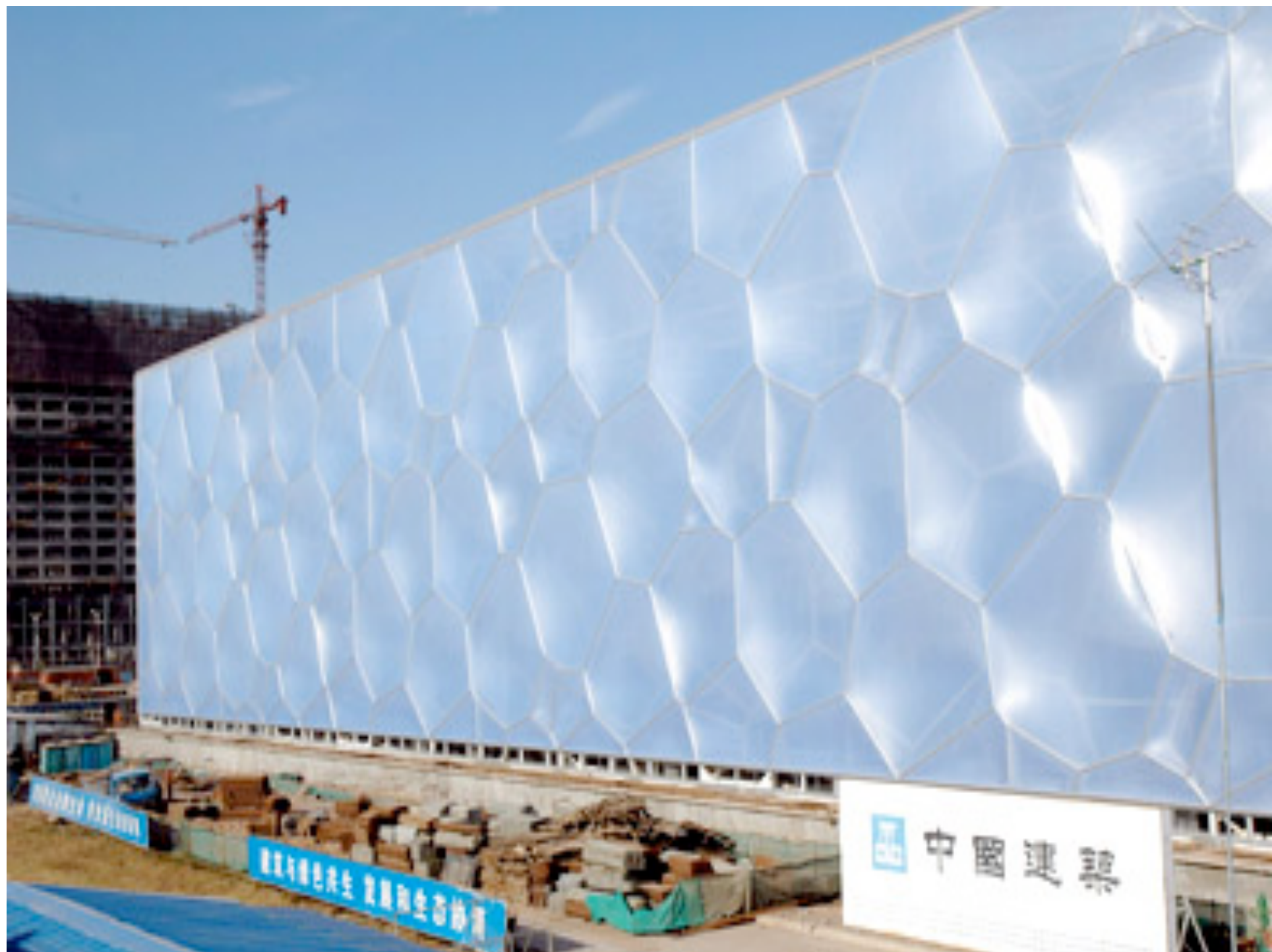










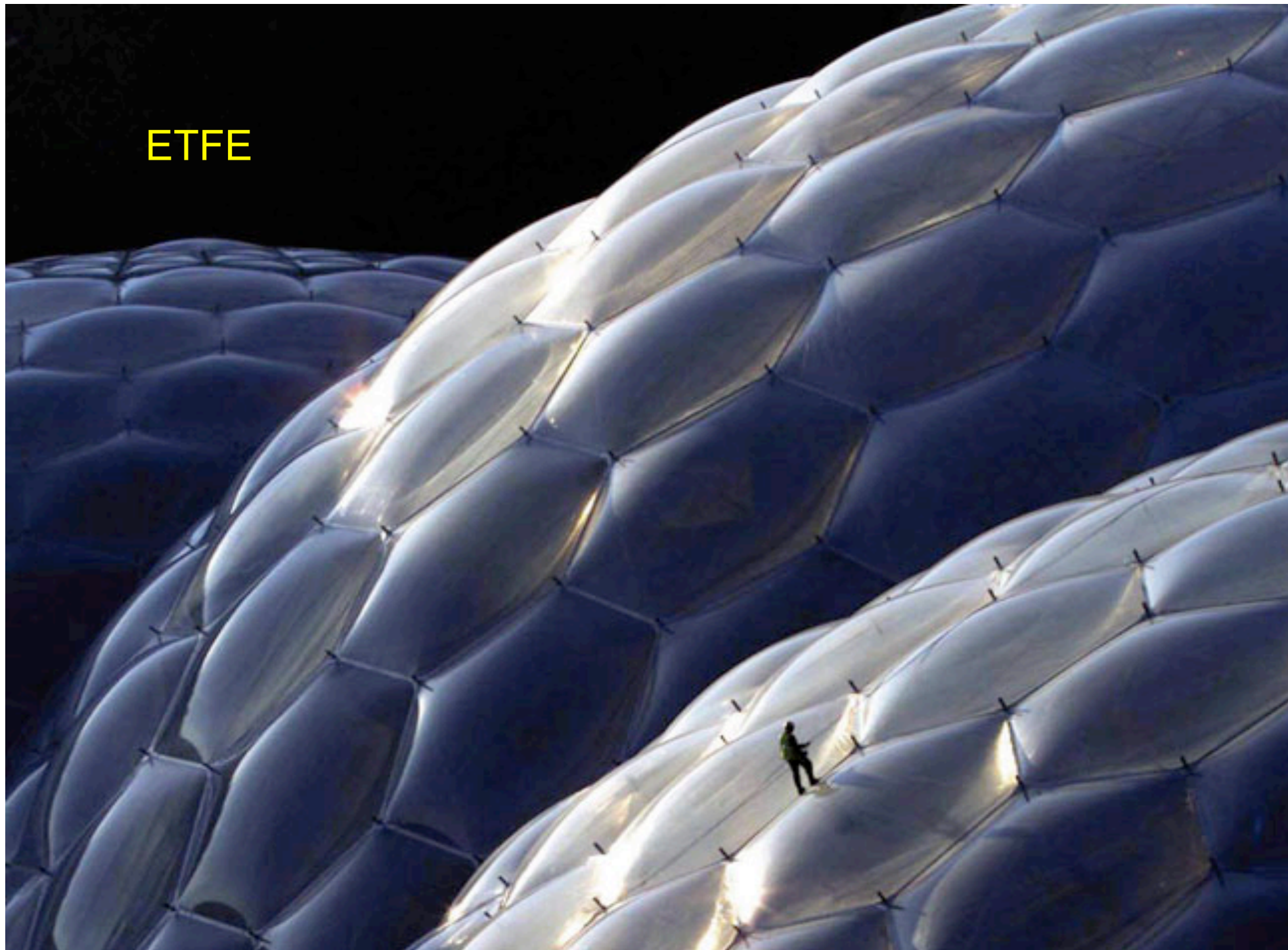








ETFE







# **OMEGA Logistics**

- ***Biology***
- ***Engineering***
- ***Environment***
- ***Economics***





***Come to the edge, he said.***

***We're afraid, they said.***

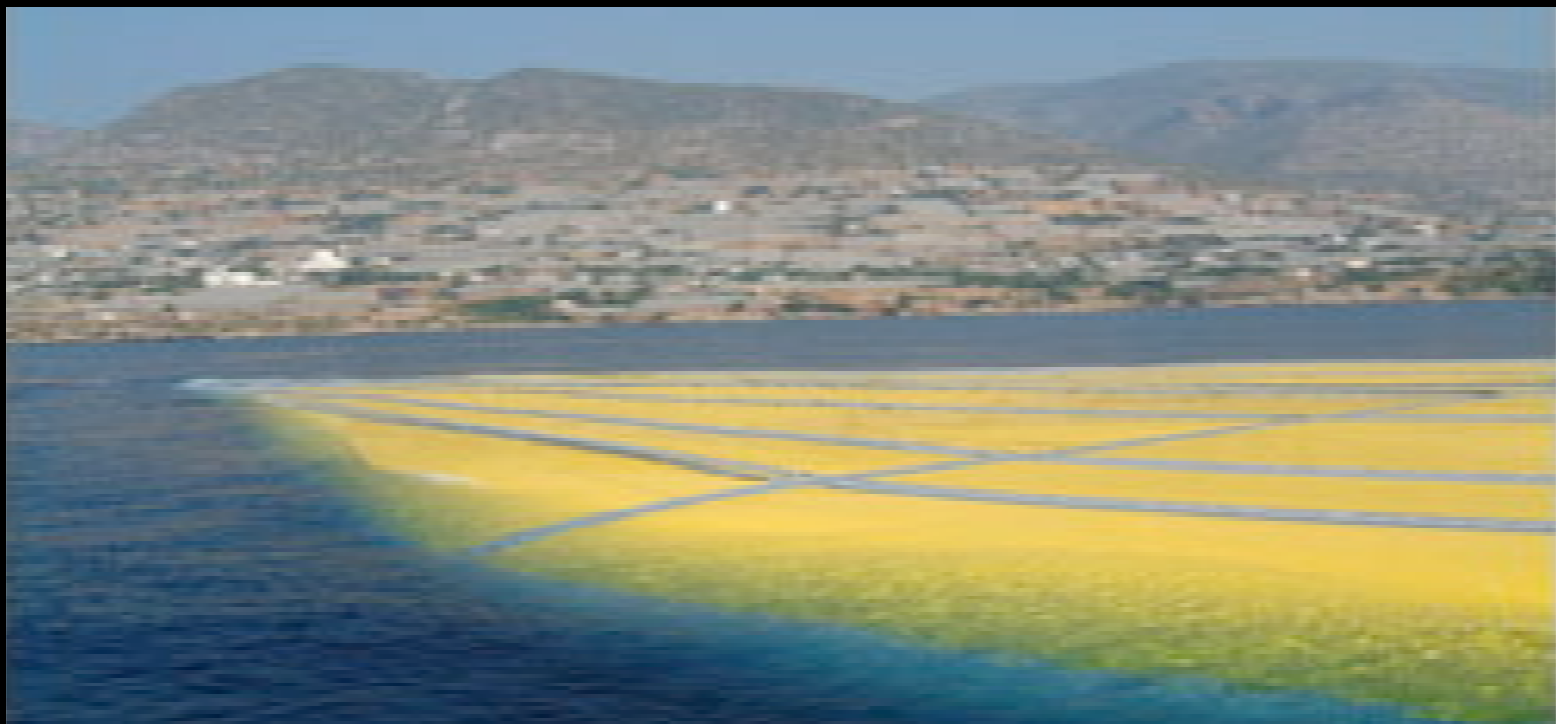
***Come to the edge, he said.***

***He pushed them...***

***And they flew...***

Apollonaire









**How much energy  
does it take to move  
big structures in water?**



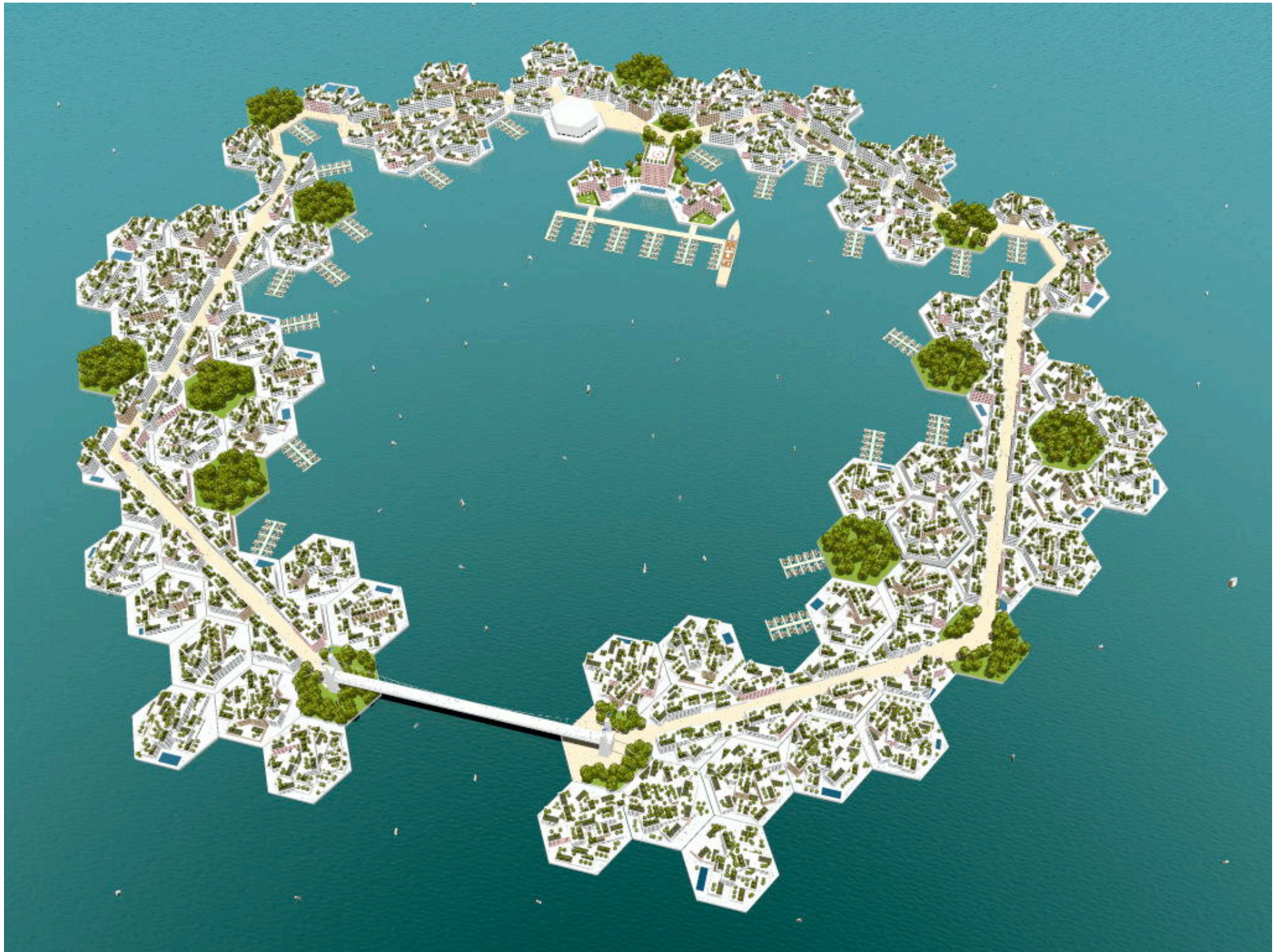
**How realistic is OMEGA?**



















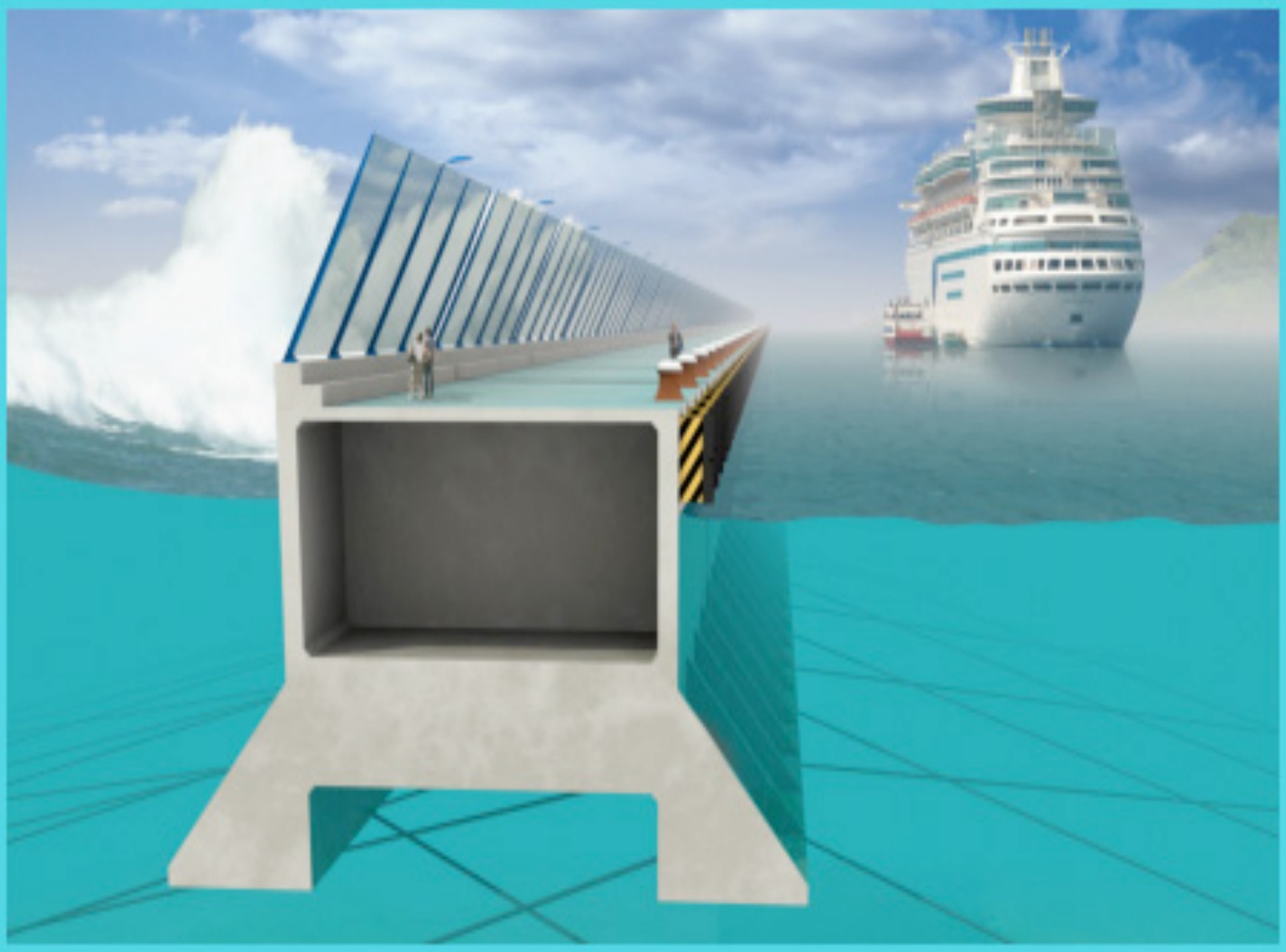
An aerial photograph of a vast, rugged mountain range. The terrain is characterized by numerous peaks and valleys, with snow or light-colored rock covering the higher elevations. The lower slopes and valleys are a mix of dark and light green, suggesting dense vegetation. The overall scene is one of immense scale and natural beauty.

**Are we up to the engineering challenge?**









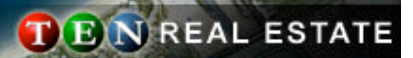




**TEN** REAL ESTATE







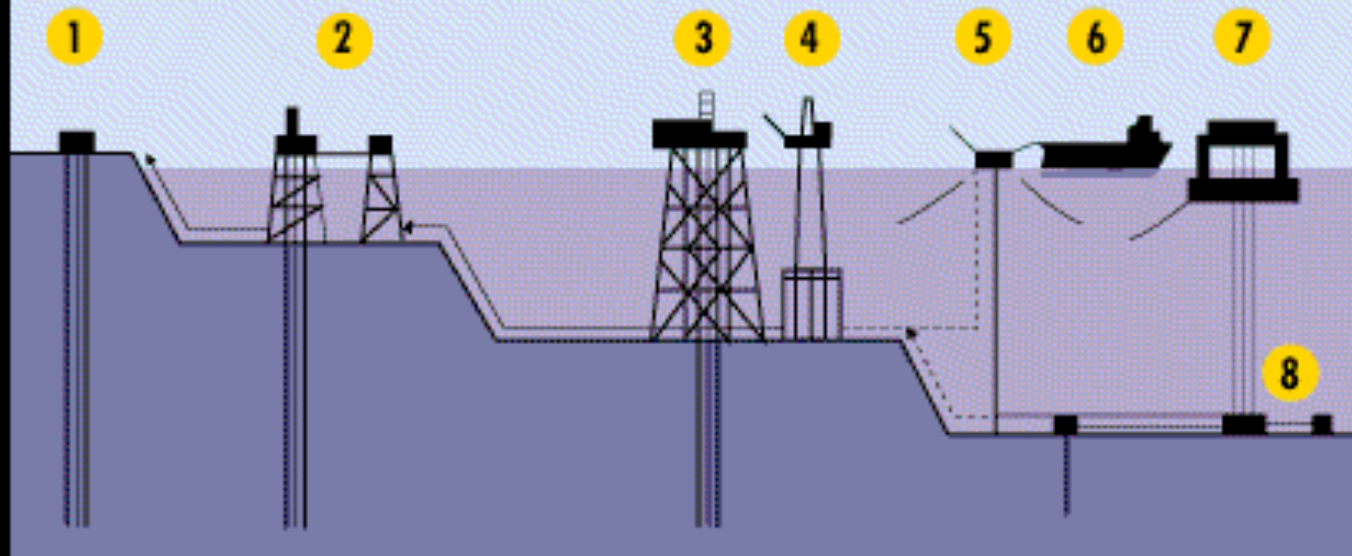




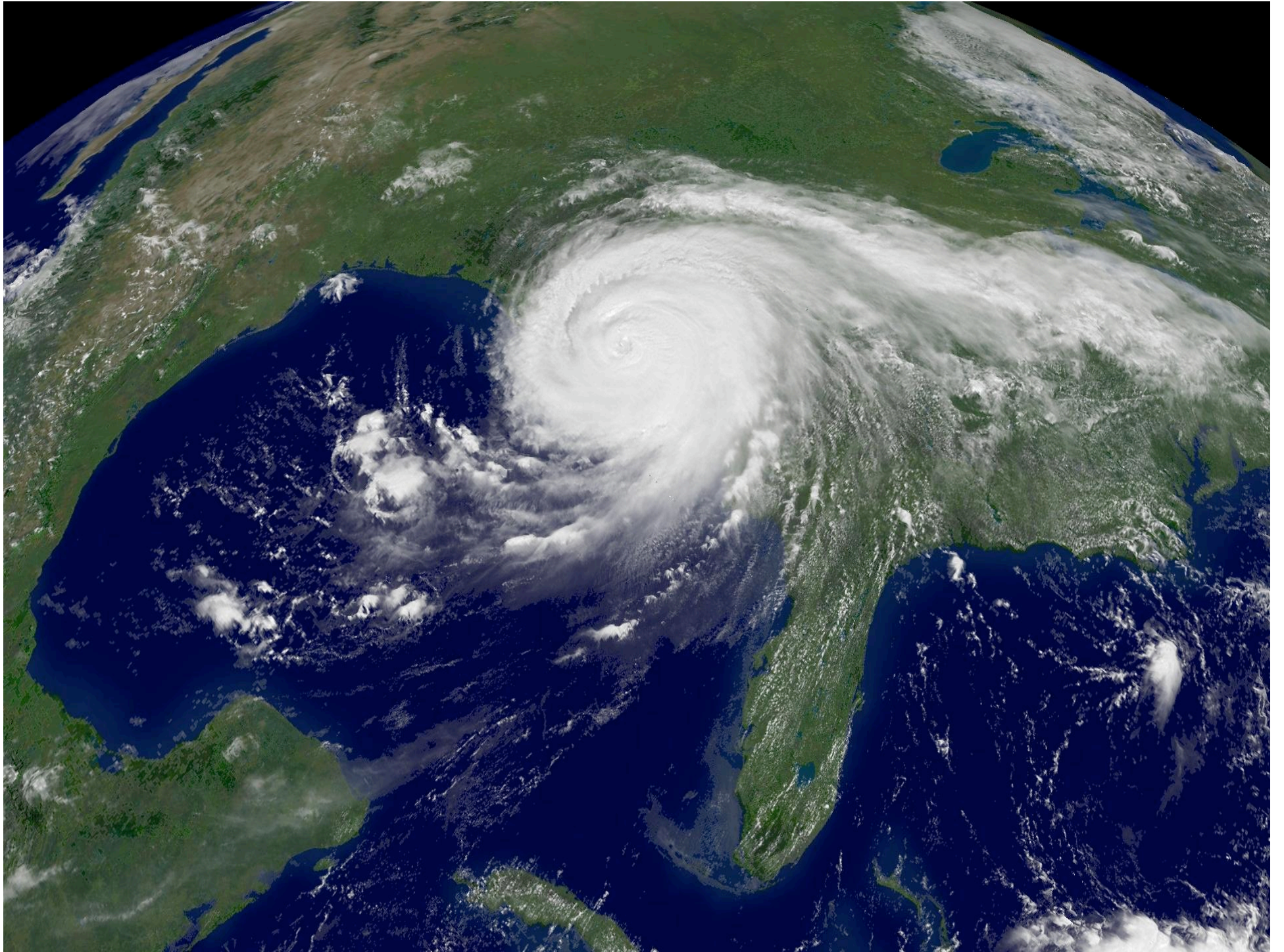


*Types of drilling stations*

1. ONSHORE WELL
2. OFFSHORE, FIXED, MULTI PLATFORMS
3. OFFSHORE, FIXED, SELF-CONTAINED PLATFORMS
4. OFFSHORE, SELF-CONTAINED, CONCRETE GRAVITY PLATFORMS
5. OFFSHORE, FLOATING, SINGLE-POINT MOORING
6. STORAGE/SHUTTLE TANKER
7. OFFSHORE, FLOATING, TENSION LEG PLATFORMS
8. SUBSEA MANIFOLDS



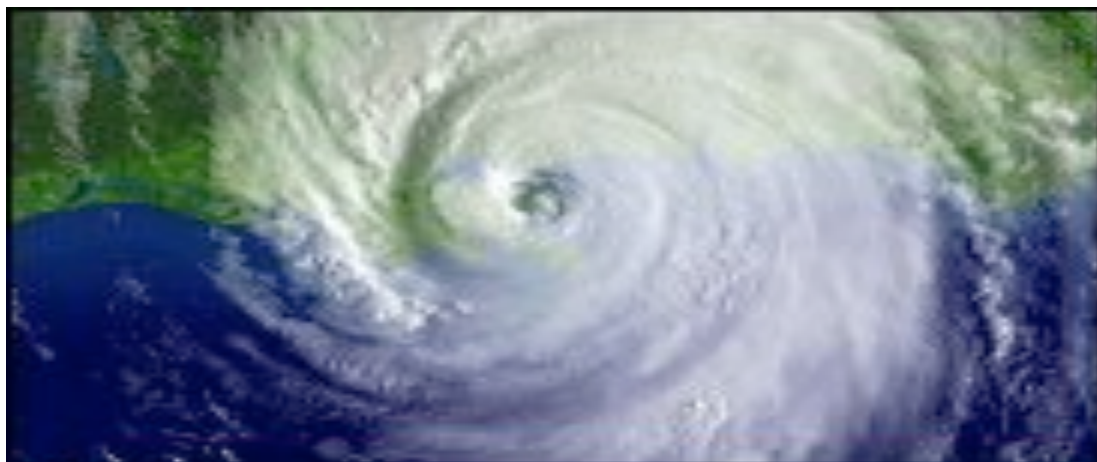












## REFINERIES SHUT



### Shut refineries ('000 bpd\*)



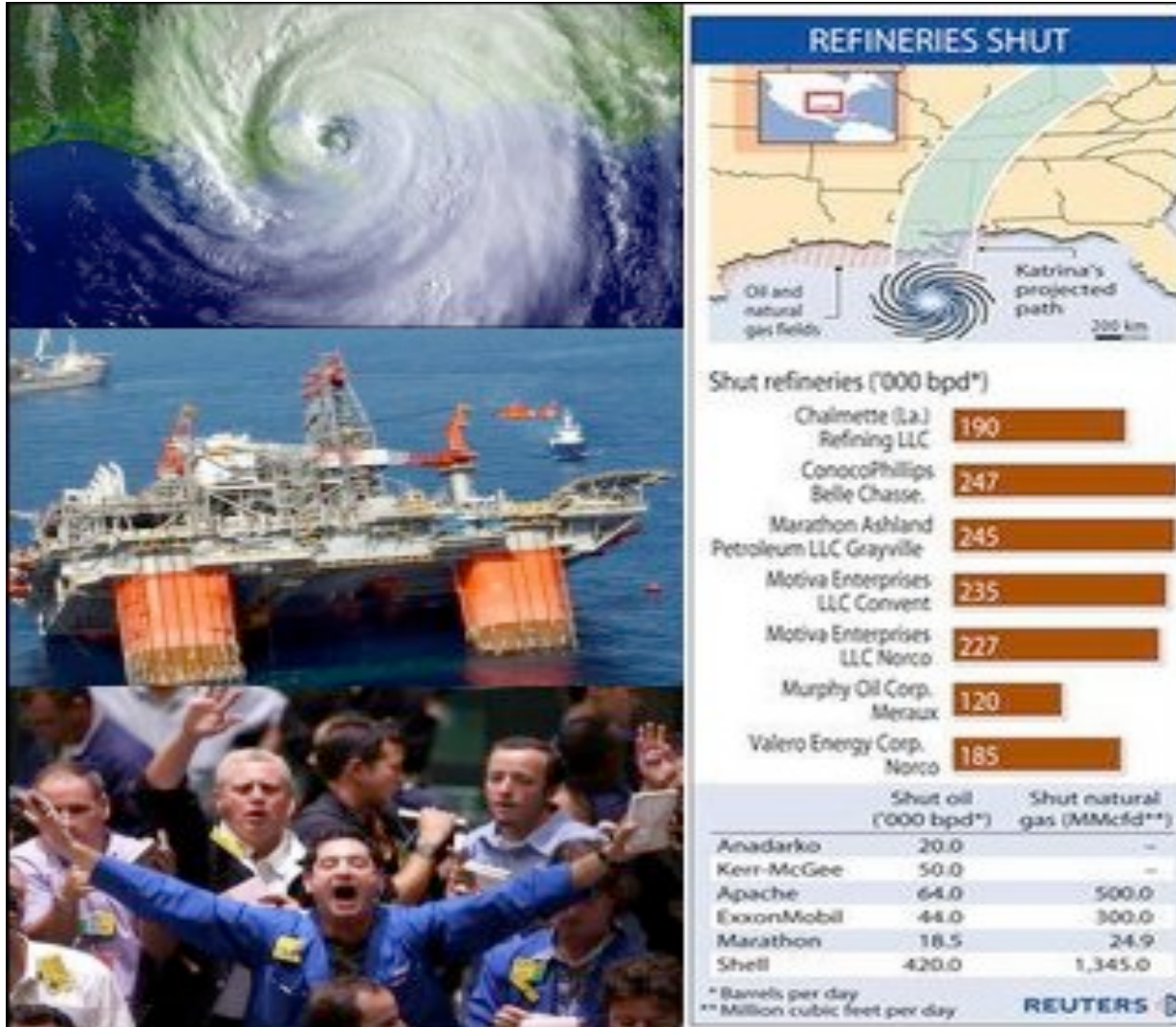
	Shut oil ('000 bpd*)	Shut natural gas (MMcfd**)
Anadarko	20.0	--
Kerr-McGee	50.0	--
Apache	64.0	500.0
ExxonMobil	44.0	300.0
Marathon	18.5	24.9
Shell	420.0	1,345.0

\* Barrels per day

\*\* Million cubic feet per day

REUTERS





- \* 15 production facilities significant damaged.
- \* Four accounted for nearly all delayed production.
- \* Repair time estimates: 3 to 6 months.





**Are we up to the OMEGA challenges?**

- ***Biology***
- ***Engineering***
- ***Environment***
- ***Economics***



**URS & OMEGA?**







**Sustainability?**

**Population**

**Affluence**

**Species**

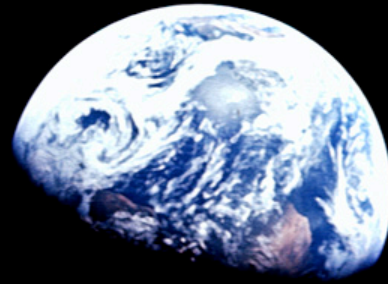
**Technology**

**Our future?**





**Failure is not an option...**



**The stone age didn't end  
because we ran out of stones... Yamani**

**There is no limit to what you can accomplish  
If you don't care who gets the credit... Truman**



# OMEGA TEAM

## Google GREEN project/CEC PIER Grant

- **NASA Ames:**  
Jonathan Trent (PI), Tsege Embaye, Patrick Buckwalter, Sigrid Reinsch,  
Travis Liggett, Robert Baertsch, [Sherwin Gormly](#)  
*Interns:* [Craig Foster](#), [Graham Akeson](#), [Marlowe Primack](#), [Jenny Kaehms](#),  
[Jonathan Bach](#), [Stefan Eckhardt](#)

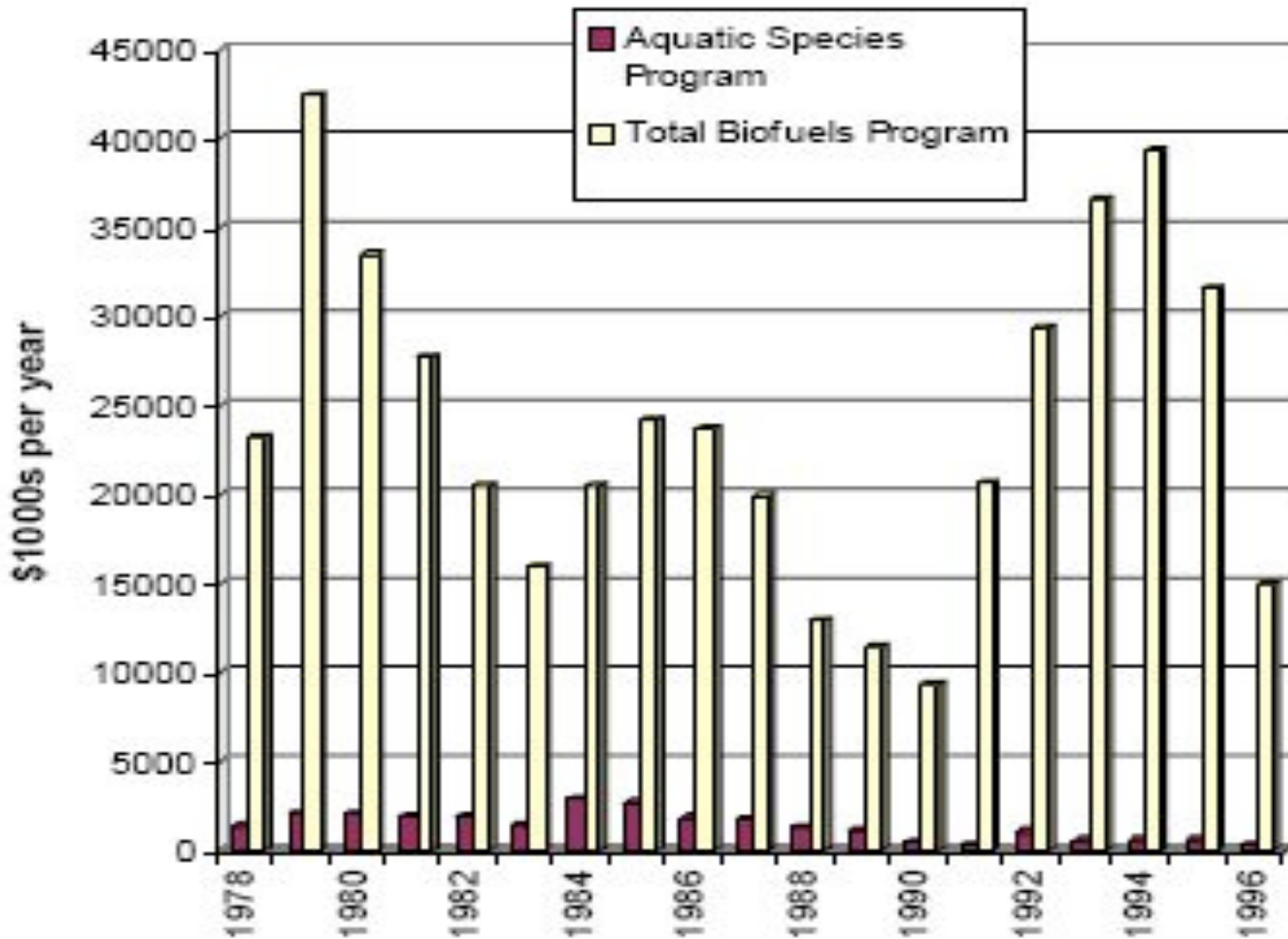
### *Collaborators:*

- **Algae Lab:** Aaron Baum
- **JPL:** Bob Easter, Gerald Voecks, Robert Danziger, Ken Johnson
- **Cal Poly:** Tryg Lundquist
- **SRI International:** Brian Bedwell, Barbara Heydorn
- **MBARI/UCSC:** Zbigniew Kolber
- **UCSC:** John & Vicki Pearse, Mary Silver, Raphel Kudela, Mark Carr
- **Symbiotics:** Ami Ben Amotz (Israel)
- **Poseidon:** Chris Costello, Jon Deitrich
- **Scripps Institution of Oceanography:** Richard Seymour
- **Harbor Branch Oceanographic:** Brian LaPoint
- **UOP:** Steve Lupton
- **Aquaculture:** Peter Lindgrin





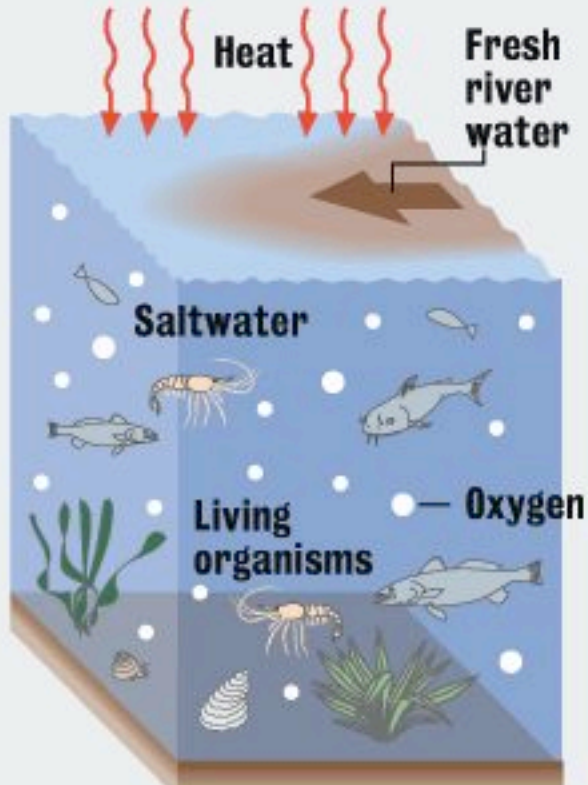
# DOE Funding of biofuels



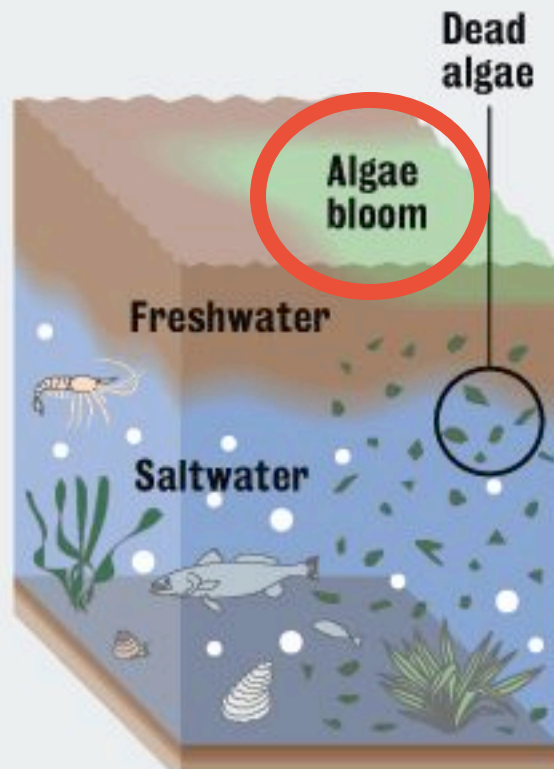




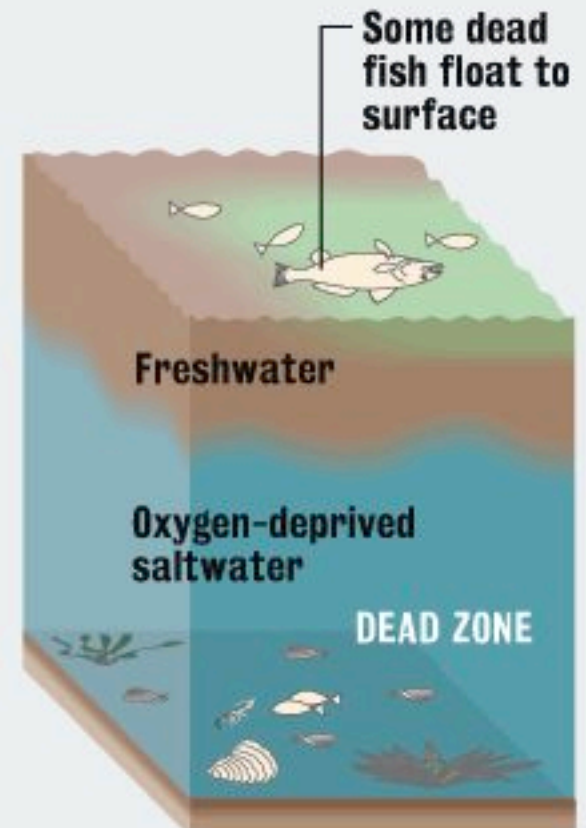
# HOW THE DEAD ZONE FORMS



Fertilizer runoff

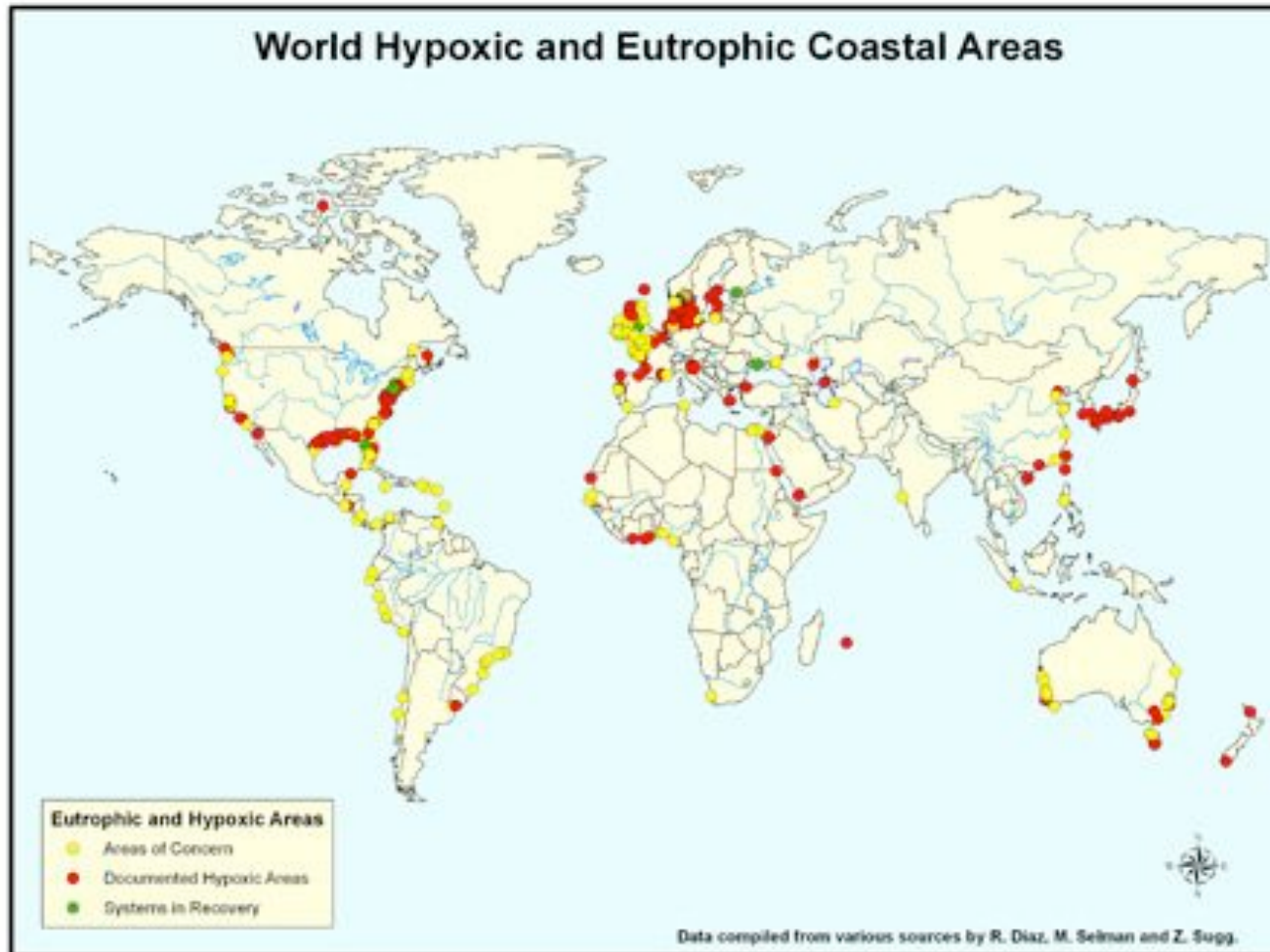


Stratified  
water column



Suffocation

# Dead Zones 2008



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Mississippi River Delta

## Remediating Dead Zones

River water  
nutrients

Coastal  
nutrients

Harvested algae

Yangtze River

REMEDiate REUSE RECYCLE NUTRIENTS

VALUE?

Hong Kong